NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

Christmas Edition

Niagara News

Vol. 24, No. 6 FREE Dec. 3, 1993

INFORMING NIAGARA COLLEGE

Nostradamus sees all for Niagara College 1994

Page 5

Merry Christmas from everyone in Journalism-Print year two

Ban buffaloed by American press

By KEITH HOBBS & ANDREA SNIDER
Staff Writers

The Ontario government is doing its best to stop the flow of information across the border regarding the Paul (Bernardo) Teale trial.

Last Sunday, The Buffalo News reprinted a story from The Washington Post that divulged information about the trial of Karla Homolka, thereby breaking the publication ban imposed by Ontario Court Justice Francis Kovacs.

Under the publication ban by Judge Kovacs there can be no publication of the "circumstances of the deaths of any person" disclosed at the trial of Karla Homolka.

The article, also reprinted by The Detriot Free Press and written by Canadian Anne Swardson, states very little new information.

This was enough, however, to cause police, customs agents and officials connected with the Ministry of the Attorney-General to seize papers coming across the border Sunday morning.

The Americans are using the story for profit — what else is new. Circulation of The Buffalo News went through the roof, border stores could not keep the paper in stock.

Earlier this month, A Current Affair ran the story and Buffalo TV station WKBW followed suit Tuesday night, but the feed was interrupted by cable companies across Ontario.

Spokespersons for the two Buffalo television stations said they had been seeking legal advice prior to running the stories that might defy the ban.

Attorney-General Marion Boyd said the publication ban has done its job. The ban, initiated so that Teale would get a fair trial, has been criticized by some members of the media and public. It has caused a feeding-frenzy among the public and press, making it more difficult to find an impartial jury for the trial.

Lawyers representing four newspapers — The Toronto Star, The Toronto Sun, The Globe and Mail and the Niagara Falls Review — and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) will soon appeal the ban in court. The lawyers have been fighting the ban since inception.

Tim Breen, Paul Teale's lawyer, said that he feels Teale can still get a fair trial even if the ban is lifted.

Makin' Bacon in Niagara

St. Catharines Student Senate President Paul Grummett poses with actor John Candy on the set of 'Canadian Bacon'

Photo by Tom Brank

By CHRIS RUSSO
Staff Writer

They sure know how to draw a crowd.

About 150 spectators braved the cold to catch a glimpse of John Candy and Rhea Perlman in action.

Candy and Perlman were across the street from Niagara College, St. Catharines Campus, at Twelve Mile Creek Tuesday, Nov. 23 working on a new movie, Canadian Bacon.

Candy and Perlman took time to have their pictures taken with Student Senate President Paul Grummett.

Other scenes being filmed around the region include Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Falls where a boat will be dropped over the world-famous Falls. The star-studded cast also includes Dan Akroyd, Alan Alda, Rip Torn and James Belushi.

Staggered dates for holiday return

By MONIKA QUECKENSTEDT
Staff Writer

There seems to be some confusion about when the Christmas holidays end and classes begin at Niagara College.

Generally, the Christmas Break runs from Dec. 18 to Jan. 2.

The last day before Christmas Break for Early Childhood Education and Garde educative a l'enfance is Dec. 23. Classes for the winter term resume on Jan. 10.

After the Christmas Break, the following programs start classes on Jan. 3: Construction Engineering Technology - Architecture, Dental Assistant, Dental Hygiene, Health Science Preparatory General College Option, Health Records Technician, Medical Transcriptionist - Health Records, Nursing, and Nursing Assistant.

For all other programs classes reconvene Jan. 10.

"The dates are set to meet the program needs," said college registrar Ivar Noren. "Program coordinators and directors make the requests."

Noren said they are working on setting holiday dates for the 1994 - 1995 school year now.

Any student who is still unsure about when to return after the holidays should check page 2 of the Niagara College 1993-94 Student Handbook.

Candidates vie for SAC vacancy

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Three candidates are running in Student Administrative Council's byelection Monday, Dec. 6, to fill a vacancy created following the resignation of SAC's vice-president social Brad Billard.

On Nov. 1, Billard resigned the position of vice-president social after deciding to withdraw from studies at Niagara. Billard's position has been filled by former vice-president internal Jeremy Lowe.

Candidates for vice-president internal in Monday's election are Scott Currie, Bernie Kurek, and Trevor Obee. No candidate may make promises, but voicing the concerns of students seems to be each candidate's main focus.

Currie, 24, of St. Catharines, said if elected he "will be looking for what the students want" and will rely on student feedback. "I will be there as a listener."

He said he acted as marketing advisor for SAC last year and it sparked an interest to get involved with council.

Currie plays guard for the men's basketball team and played for the college's Ontario championship touch football team earlier this year. He graduated from the Marketing-Management program at Niagara College in April and plans to graduate from computer programming next term.

He said he wants to get more involved with the social aspect of Niagara, having already experienced the athletic side.

Working in co-op sales during the summer, said Currie, has improved his communication skills — an asset he is relying on for what he predicts will be a close election.

Continued on page 9

OTEC brings message for Niagara students

By TOM BRANK
Staff Writer

An average of 35 people are killed in the Niagara Region each year in drinking and driving accidents. Attitudes have to change.

That was the message guest speakers gave students during a drinking and driving presentation Nov. 19 in the Hamilton Room.

The panel spoke to about 75 Law and Security Administration Program students as part of Drug Awareness Week Nov. 15 to 21. Guest speakers included a victim of an impaired driving accident, a Niagara Regional Police officer, and a driver convicted of impaired driving causing death. The presentation gave students a chance to experience the tragedy of drinking and driving on a personal level.

"Hopefully our intention of bringing you this information makes an impression on you, so these issues will protect you and the people you care about," said Paul Niesink, program supervisor of Outpatient Treatment Education Counselling Program (OTEC), at the beginning of the presentation.

The first speaker was a woman who was severely injured by an impaired driver seven years ago after being hit while crossing the street. She said she doesn't remember the accident but lives with its effects everyday. The accident has left her with the need for intense physical therapy and has devasated her family.

"The worst part is what it (the accident) has done to my family," she said.

Officer Don Ferguson, of the NRP said many people don't get upset by drinking and driving and often shrug the problem off. But Ferguson had some disturbing statistics how serious the problem has become in the Niagara Region.

He said between 1990 and 1992, the number of fatalities due to impaired driving was three times higher than the number of people murdered in the Niagara Region. Also, one of every three impaired drivers arrested had been arrested for impaired driving before. Although impaired driving accidents involving students is down, drinking among students has increased, Ferguson added.

The last speaker, known only as George, told his story of how his habit of driving drunk ended with the death of his friend on the QEW.

George, was convicted of impaired driving causing death and served a three year sentence. But a jail term is nothing compared to the "life sentence" he's given himself, said George.

Each speaker had a different perspective of the issue, but they all had important points about the realities behind drinking and driving. The facts are clear that more education is needed.

"You cannot deny the fact that drinking and driving has a very serious effect, not only on the victim, but for the person involved in the accident as well," said Niesink.

LASA+Metropol=safety

By TOM BRANK
Staff Writer

Staff and students attending night school next semester will be a bit safer on campus.

Metropol security guards working in co-operation with Law and Security Administration program students will provide safe escorts for anyone walking to their vehicle. The service will be provided on all Niagara College campuses in St. Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls.

The college will have designated areas in each building where staff and students can meet security personnel for escorts. The security will also include more parking lot and building checks on campus.

The added security is essentially to increase personal safety for people attending night school, said Heather Hodgson, Law and Security Adminstration program co-ordinator.

The new service is part of the work experience placement for second-year LASA students, giving them an opportunity to learn career-related skills, said Hodgson.

Abide by R.I.D.E.

By ROBIN GREEN
Staff Writer

Impaired drivers beware, for the Niagara Regional Police R.I.D.E program will be starting soon for the Christmas season.

Bob Blaney, who works for Emergency Services at the Niagara Regional Police headquarters in St. Catharines, said the R.I.D.E signs went on the cars Dec. 1, which is being followed by sporadic spot checks throughout the Christmas season. The program will end after New Year's.

Blaney said statistically impaired driving in the Niagara Region has decreased since the beginning of the R.I.D.E program in 1987, and the rate has stabilized in the last couple of years.

Along with spot checks, police officers will be looking for drivers without seatbelts, as well as for people driving aggressively.

Drivers stopped who are have been drinking and are found to have under the .08 limit will have their licence suspended for 12 hours. People driving with more than the legal limit of alcohol in their blood will lose their licence for one year and have to pay a fine.

The R.I.D.E program is also launched throughout the year, usually during holiday weekends that are typically celebrated by drinking alcohol, such as Labor Day or the Super Bowl weekend.

Every Santa knows that the greatest gift of all
is
the Gift
of Life
+
The Canadian Red Cross Society

MPP seeking to secure tuition fees in Ontario

By ANDREA SNIDER
Staff Writer

Ottawa South's MPP Dalton McGuinty is on the side of students.

In a recent debate with the Hon. David S. Cooke, Minister of Education and Training regarding tuition fees and ancillary fees paid by Ontario students, McGuinty tried to put an end to rumors surrounding proposed tuition hikes in Ontario.

McGuinty sent the Niagara News a transcript of his session in the debate, defending the plight of Ontario students who are being denied grant assistance, cannot find part-time jobs , and who face huge tuition hikes, rumored to be as high as 50 per cent.

McGuinty asked Cooke for some assurance that Ontario student fees "will not increase by anything more than a moderate amount."

Cooke said "there are all sorts of rumors out there," but he confirmed that no decision has been made regarding tuition fees, and no recommendation has been finalized within the ministry.

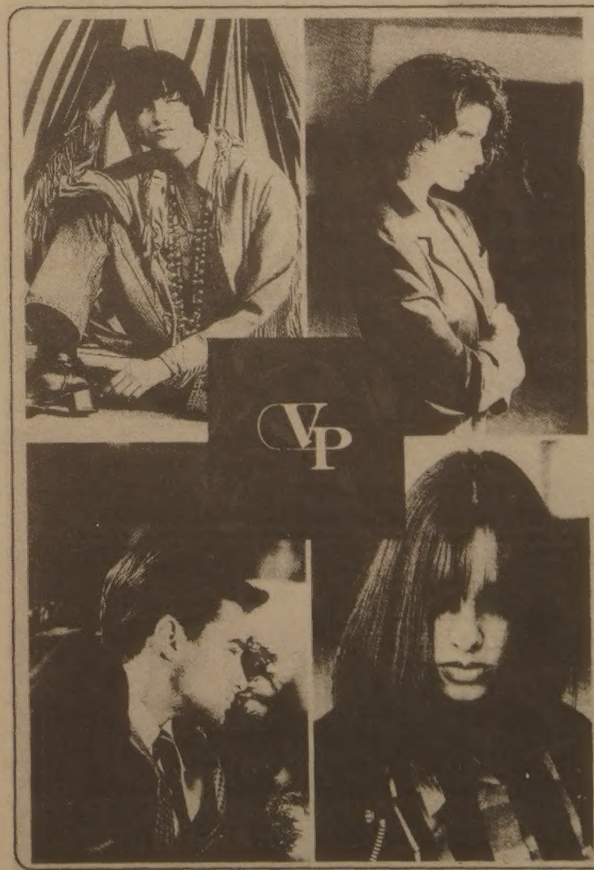
"Ontario has the second-lowest tuition in all of Canada. So keep that in mind. We have some financial pressures in our university system," Cooke said.

McGuinty said the ministry was allowing universities and colleges to collect "back door" monies by "jacking up" ancillary fees.

The ministry prohibits universities and colleges using ancillary fees to cover operating costs, but McGuinty accuses them of doing just this.

"[The University of] Western specifically said it was charging an additional $200 in ancillary fees in 1993 because of Social Contract cuts to its operating budget," McGuinty said.

Cooke said he wants some commitments from colleges and university communities to keep a lid on ancillary fees.



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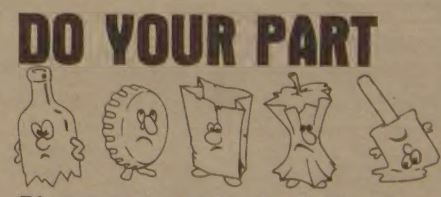


Please put yukkies in their place
JOIN US!

Days of Dedication began in 165 BC.

By MONIKA QUECKENSTEDT
Staff Writer

Hanukkah or Chanukah is an eight-day Jewish holiday beginning Dec. 9.

"Hanukkah is the same type of holiday as Christmas," said Elie Ben David, 27, of St. Catharines, a second-year Journalism-Print program student. "Basically, it's a holiday that brings people (family) together. We exchange gifts."

Hanukkah, pronounced HAH-noo-kah, is Hebrew for dedication. This holiday is also known as the Feast of Lights or Days of Dedication.

Hanukkah's story begins in 165 BC.

The Jews in Judea led by Mattahias and his son Judah Maccabee defeated the forces of the Seleucid King Antiochus IV Epiphanes of Syria after a three-year struggle.

The Jews reclaimed and rededicated their temple to God to celebrate the victory.

After removing the Syrian idols, the Jews found enough oil to light the Menorah, a candelabrum, for one day.

Miraculously, it continued to burn for eight days and Judah Maccabee declared an annual eight-day festival known as Hanukkah.

"That's why we celebrate it," Ben David said.

Aside from exchanging gifts among family, Jews celebrate Hanukkah by giving donations to the poor and by lighting a candle each night on the Menorah symbolizing the relighting of the Temple Eternal Light.

Festive songs, games and meals are part of the holiday as well as ritualistic prayers and readings to recount the history of Hanukkah.

"We don't consider Hanukkah as one of the major holidays," said Ben David. "It's a minor holiday compared to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur which are celebrated in September."

Perched on Santa's lap at the Seaway Mall is 22-month-old Russell Young of Welland.

Photo by Mike Michaud

The ambiance of Christmas fills the air

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the Christmas shopping rush, a castle of dreams brings joy to the hearts of children.

Santa Claus is in town and he's collecting wishes for his annual visit to homes around the world. Visiting his winter castle, located in Welland's Seaway Mall, may soon be the best chance for children to get their wish list delivered by Christmas.

Even above the buzz of holiday shoppers, one can easily hear him. "Ho! Ho! Ho!," he shouts merrily, trying to coax youngsters into having a picture taken with jolly, old Saint Nick. Some timidly approach the man in the big, red suit. Others welcome the chance to show Santa their list of Christmas wishes.

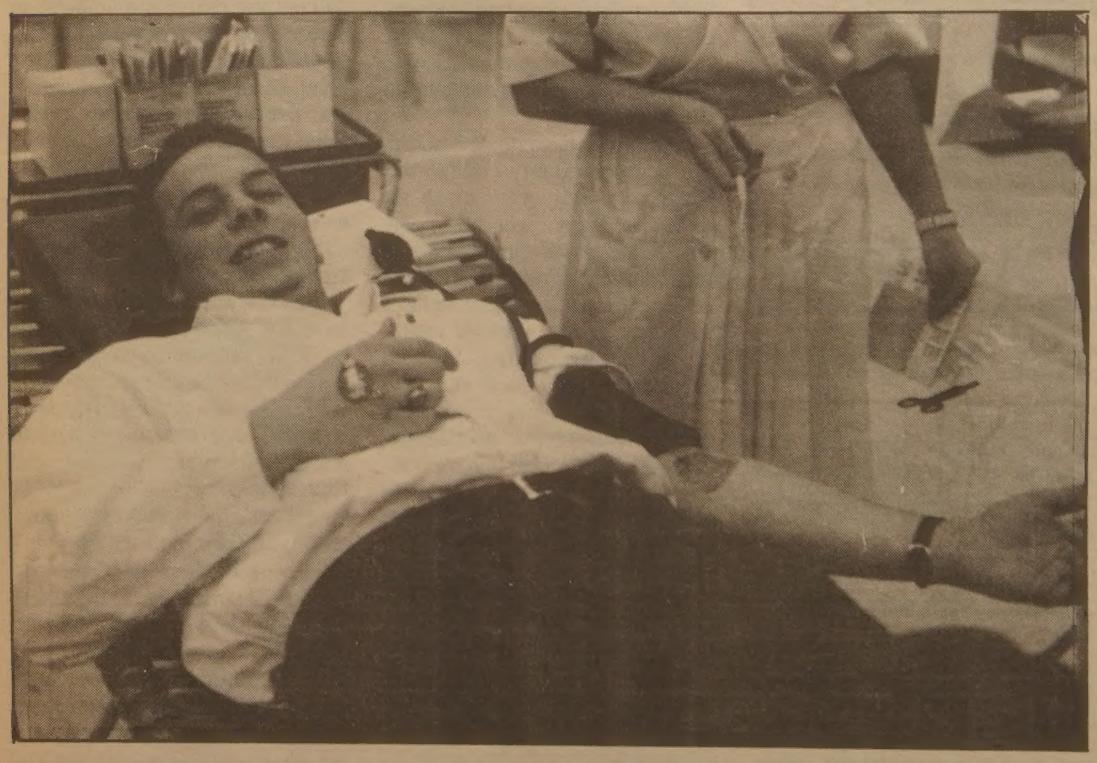
The Seaway Mall Santa, otherwise known as Glen Greenway, says he enjoys working with children. With two young children of his own, Greenway says playing Santa Claus is "an extension of being a parent." This is his first time playing Santa, but he seems to have what it takes to bring a smile to a child's face.

From behind a mask of hair, the only thing he dislikes about the job, Greenway says playing Santa Claus is a "great opportunity" to sharpen his acting skills. An actor by profession, he is currently acting in a project by Niagara College film students. "Relatively Embarrassing" is his second film for Niagara students. Although Greenway's run as Santa is only temporary (there is a new Seaway Mall Santa as you read this), he says he enjoys letting children "get a chance to talk to Santa."

Santa and his elves will be visiting the Seaway Mall weekday nights and weekends until Dec. 24. Pictures with Santa, which are optional, cost $7.

LASA students win Buddy Blood Drop award

I vant to suck your blood



Chuck Klapkiw, 19, of LASA is about to get stuck by a volunteer nurse at the Red Cross Blood Clinic, held at the Niagara College gym on Nov. 26. Klapkiw was one of many donors at what one organizer said was "a very successful clinic."

Photo by Keith Hobbs

By KEITH HOBBS
Staff Writer

With sweat on his brow, Chuck Klapkiw tried to be brave. The 19-year-old Law and Security Administration (LASA) program student knew that not all people come out of it the same, and while the cries of others filled his ears, it happened.

"Now that didn't hurt, now did it?" the nurse said with a smile.

While people lined up outside, Klapkiw quietly saved someone's life. He gave blood.

Last Friday, Nov. 26, the Canadian Red Cross Society held its annual blood donor clinic in the Niagara College gymnasium. The event, supported by SAC and attended by SAC (Kristen Sorensen president of SAC organized the refreshments), began at noon and ended at 3 p.m.

The LASA, Ambulance and Emergency programs held their clinic earlier, from 9 a.m. till noon, because of the larger turnout of those two programs annually. In the last 12 years, these two programs have owned the Corpsuckle Cup, an award given to the program with the largest student turnout as a percentage of donors. First-year LASA, with the donation of 87 pints, won the cup again this year. The Buddy Blood Drop award also went to LASA. The award is given for most pints given by a program year. The Ambulance and Emergency donated 24 pints, second most in the college.

The awards presentation will be held on Dec. 7 at 12:30 p.m. in room 11 of the Mackenzie building. Also being awarded will be the staff from the campus computer store, for the most staff donations with three.

Jan Potten, vice-president of the Red Cross Society and a teacher at the college, said that although donations were down from last year she was "really pleased" with the turnout. "This was one of our better clinics for a Friday, usually students are trying to get an early start on the weekend," she said.

The reduction of donations, down from 262 pints to 229 pints, was due in part to a lack of beds. Over 70 students were unable to donate blood because of the length of the wait for a bed. "Just three more beds would have given us 300 pints," Potten said.

Despite the reduction of donations there was a bright spot for the Red Cross on Friday. International students, from the English as a Second Language program, came out to show their support, donating seven pints. The college staff gave 11 pints, up seven from last year.

EDITORIAL PAGE

College apathy challenges abuse and rape education

The Nov. 5, 1993 edition of the Niagara News contained an anomymous survey regarding sexual abuse.

I would like to thank the four people who took the time to respond to this survey.

One can only hope that none of the 4,825 students registered at Niagara College were not among the 700 clients seen at the Niagara Region Sexual Assault Centre in St. Catharines last year.

I suspect the real reason for this overwhelming lack of response is one of apathy.

The survey was intended to provoke thought and to gather information. Niagara College may be able to teach us the finer points of academics but it can't teach men or women how to relate to each other.

The challenge is to educate ourselves. While the subject is disturbing, there's no question that sexual or date abuse remains a serious problem regardless of gender.

The lack of interest shown by the student body only reinforces the belief that as soon as something that can be learned comes up, if it makes us uncomfortable it is far better to ignore the problem and pretend that it's not happening.

Peggy Tedder

Courtroom ban tries patience

I've never been a big fan of censorship, and lately my patience is really being tried. This Homolka/Bernardo/Teale information ban is starting to cramp my style.

I don't like my cable, which incidentally I pay $30 a month for, being interrupted by a big blue screen of blur.

If The Washington Post and The Buffalo News feel like asserting a little 'look what we got' over Canada, let them. Only the exceedingly nosy are interested. A Current Affair has never been the icon of journalistic virtues, why should we believe it is now?

I understand the reason for the ban, but I also sympathize with people who are tiring of the protective shield enforced upon them. I guess it's all in the hands of the lawyers to battle it out. I hate these wait-and-see propositions.

In highschool, I fought for the right to read Huckleberry Finn, To Kill a Mockingbird and books with sporadically-placed swear words. Now, there is nothing I can do to fight—I have to sit back and watch the blue blur.

Andrea Snider

Niagara News

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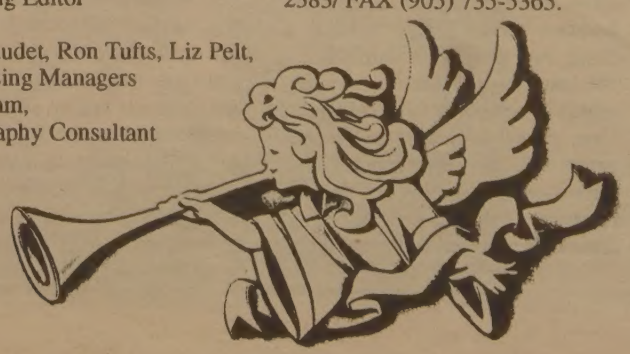


Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.
2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.
3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening phone number for verification use only.

All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

Hard work draws blood

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank the first-year Law and Security Administration program students who worked so hard to publicize and organize last Friday's blood donor clinic.

The Corpsuckle Cuties, Draculas and Buddy Blood Drop were definitely noticed by the college community! Their makeup artists deserve a big thank you for their special effects.

These incredible LASA students posted and then removed over 1,000 notices on the college walls, placed 2,000 "tickets" on car windshields, unloaded and then packed up all the Red Cross equipment, provided traffic control of donors during the clinic and served over 250 donors with coffee, Coke and doughnuts.

In addition, I would like to express my gratitude to Kristen Sorensen, Student Administrative Council president, for organizing the refreshments, supervising the sign-out table, arranging for and distributing the pizza and designing and photocopying hundreds of posters. She has devoted hours to the organization of the past two clinics and their success is due to her efforts. It has been wonderful to work with her!

Monika Queckenstedt, Keith Hobbs and the Niagara News, again, provided excellent coverage of the clinic.

Carolyn Hurst, college nurse, was really appreciated by Red Cross officials for her assistance in the recovery area during the clinic.

I am very grateful to Cece Grypstra and John O'Neal for the long hours that they devoted to setting up and dismantling the clinic.

All of you are responsible for the success of last Friday's clinic.

Thanks to everyone,
Jan Potton
Psychology Professor
Vice-President
Welland Branch
Canadian Red Cross Society

College needs change

Dear Editor:

After a number of years of employment in the business world I have learned that active participation in the informal workplace is as important as that of the formal. It is then that one becomes well acquainted with fellow workers. This can lead to improved group teamwork and an environment where the creation of many of the firm's greatest ideas and solutions can be achieved. To do this, the employer must be committed to the creation and nurturing of the informal workplace.

I use this to illustrate how student life at a community college like Niagara is really very much the same. The formal workplace consists of the classes, labs, tutorials, etc. . . .that we must all participate in. The informal workplace includes the school clubs, athletic teams, private study groups, Student Administrative Council, etc.

It has been my observation that the administration of Niagara College do not appear to have committed themselves to encourage this important component of the education process. Why? It is well known that the college has scheduled a minimum of one double period per week (Tuesdays 5 and 6 and/or Thursdays 5 and 6) known as the SAC Activity Period. The idea is fantastic! The execution of same is practically non-existent to most students.

Shortly after the fall semester began, various faculties chose to schedule classes on top of these periods as it provided a measure of improved convenience for the staff, departments, etc. . . Well, these same staff and departments do not have to pay for those periods. The students of Niagara College do! We are assessed a fee to pay for these activities.

I am one of the students that is paying for this service that I am not receiving because of scheduling conflicts. To make matters worse, I (and others that I am aware of) are attempting to administrate small clubs and we have been told that unless they charge a membership fee to its members, it cannot receive funds from the SAC activity fund. As all of the members of the club I am involved with classes at the same time as the activity period, none of us can participate effectively. It would be an insult to ask each of these students for a fee and not be able to provide them with a service.

This is a dilemma that seems to have affected most of the student body. My question to the administration of Niagara College is, will they enforce the SAC activity period as scheduled each semester? If not, will the college then take the financial responsibility for SAC away from the student body and absorb this cost themselves?

This is not just a matter of finances. I come back to my original thesis. If the college were to encourage the students to participate in this informal workplace, they will be doing the prospective employers of our community a great service by educating the student about the importance and effectiveness of both the formal and informal workplace.

J. Mark Robinson
Electronics Engineering Technology student

PERSPECTIVES

Take a glance into Niagara College's future

By NOSTRADAMUS
Special to Niagara News

Dear Mr. Nostradamus,

We, The Niagara News, would like to ask you to do a special column for our newspaper. Because of your incredible powers to see into the future, we were wondering if you could predict some of Niagara College's future for 1994. (enclosed is cheque and a bottle of Gibson's Finest.)

taken from letter to Nostradamus

The future of Niagara College?

The nerve of those students to ask the greatest soothsayer ever to foresee their insignificant futures.

Well it's been a few hundred years since I've had a gig, but since the cheque is already in my pocket and almost all the whiskey is gone, I might as well get down to business.

[So here they are — my predictions for 1994]

David Schleich, vice-president academic, will instantly combust while waiting in line for a submarine sandwich at the college's Mr. Sub outlet. His ashes will accidently be eaten by unknowing students, causing an unexplainable urge in these students to stay in school for an extra month.

Campus Radio Niagara College (CRNC) will be the victim of a robbery sometime in March. All their CDs will be taken, except *Barney Unplugged and Corked* and *Michael Jackson: The Vienna Boys Choir Sessions*. After three straight days of playing just those two CDs, only three students will notice but will keep it to themselves as they feel it is an improvement. A college DJ will enter a McDonald's and punch out Grimace. While fleeing the McDonald's he will be heard yelling,"that fat purple freak will never sing again."

After Hours, trying to increase student patronage, will attempt to stay open late one night in February. The plan will be ill-conceived, as the night of the late closing, CBS will run a much anticipated special — *Regis Philbin, His Love, His Horse*. After the failure the pub will offically change its name, After 11 but only till 5. This change will increase business, as students feel that they are finally being told the truth.

Niagara College President John Saso will change his name in February from Saso to Saywhatyoumeanandmeanwhat yousay. He will be fired shortly after, as letterhead costs will go over budget.

In a strange turn of events a male Law and Security Administration (LASA) student will be arrested for impersonating a police officer.Asked why he did it, the student will say, "I'm white and I'm male, this was the only way I was going to become a cop."A few days later a group of people will be found locked up in a Welland basement apartment.

[Here are some predictions for the world around you, no extra charge]

Willie Nelson will swim the English Channel.

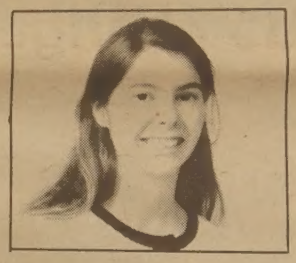
Ex-Lax will come out with an unplugged CD.

The French will stop being rude, but because of the accent no one will notice.

Wendy and Harvey will meet, fall in love and get married but the food will still suck.

And finally Prince Charles will die, and later be found by a woman in Mensk in a tampon box (lesson is— watch what you wish for).

Student questions SAC's support of wet T-shirt contest



By SALLY BOND
Staff Writer

Surely, I thought, I must have heard wrong.

SAC, created to represent the entire student body at Niagara College, could not be endorsing a wet T-shirt contest.

A quick telephone call to Jeremy Lowe, vice-president social, confirmed that this was indeed the case.

A wet T-shirt contest, supported by SAC, was to have taken place on Nov. 25 at the Eastside Playpen in Welland as part of a college pub night. Lack of participants resulted in its cancellation.

Lowe began our interview by saying "people are making a big deal out of nothing."

He told me that girls are not "being forced to go up on stage" and that I, as a person who did not attend any pub nights at Smart Alex's Bar and Grill, had no right to complain.

I was, he said, "making mountains out of molehills."

Interesting choice of words.

I am not opposed to skin fests in general. What people do on their own time with their own money is none of my concern.

This, however, does affect me.

SAC exists, in part, because of the tuition I pay. Money from that cost is alloted to the organization.

SAC also exists to enact the wishes and fulfill the needs of the student body, which includes me.

My money and my wishes have been grossly misrepresented.

While Lowe said SAC could have begun pub nights with any type of event, the choice was a wet T-shirt contest.

I find it odd that while more female students attend Niagara College, an event obviously geared for male entertainment was chosen.

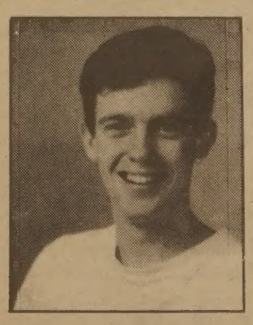
As of yet, Lowe said no plans were being made for any type of stud fests.

College is to be an arena for self-improvement and self-awareness. A wet T-shirt contest is two steps back.

Since SAC is unable to find anything wrong with the wet T-shirt contest, I am sure the female members of SAC just forgot their towels Wednesday night.

Opinions help expand students' 'intellectual horizons'

Decisions affect our community



By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

What is the problem?

Can someone tell me why no one at this school has an opinion on anything? Or does nobody have an answer because they don't care?

Another reporter and myself go about the college for every edition of the paper, trying to squeeze five opinions out of students for the secton titled Niagara Speaks. Speaks was meant to be an entertaining, informative means of showing students' opinions on various subjects and current events. But Niagara doesn't speak. Niagara doesn't care. From our first-hand experience with students, I have come to the conclusion that the vast majority of Niagara College students are ill-informed and couldn't care less about the world around them.

Believe it or not, there is a world out there, with events happening and things changing which will affect us for the rest of our lives. The financial implications of some of these events are enough to change our economy forever. Is it too much to at least read the headlines of any newspaper?

'...the vast majority of Niagara College students are ill-informed...'

Why not keep yourself informed? You may find that if you take 20 minutes out of your daily cartoon and soap opera viewing, you may actually find out what is going on in the world. Heaven forbid, but after one or two sessions of this, you may actually form an opinion on something other than the cross-dressing nuns on Geraldo.

Why should you care about the world around you? This may sound hard to believe, but the Niagara Region is not the be all and end all of the world. As a matter of fact, the world could function quite well without the Niagara Region. The next time you find yourself complaining about the taxes on your alcohol and tobacco, just remember that the taxes are a result of decisions made far away from Wainfleet or St. Catharines, decisions that you were too busy watching Tom and Jerry to find out about and maybe even act upon.

Don't just sit there and watch the world spin by. Having an opinion can help you expand your intellectual horizons. The decisions being made outside your community are usually more important than the ones made within. With this in mind, it might be an idea to sneak a peek at something in the paper other than the comics.

College aids United Way

By JILLIAN WATSON
Staff Writer

Niagara College reached 68 per cent of its $25,000 fundraising goal for the United Way campaign ended Nov. 19.

Last year, Niagara College met 97 per cent of its goal by campaign's end and raised $25,020 with an extended campaign.

Although the campaign has not been formally extended, there is still money coming in, said Cathy Weir, Niagara College's campaign chairperson.

Although this year's campaign was affected by Ontario Premier Bob Rae's social contract, Weir said "We did just as well as others affected by the social contract."

Earlier in the campaign, Weir said she was concerned faculty, support staff and administration people may be less inclined to contribute because of losing money through mandated non-paid days off.

"That's no excuse," said Nancy Geddie, a part-time English teacher at the college.

An unemployment rate of 13 per cent in the Niagara Region is proof there is a social need to fill in the community, she said. "When it's happening to people you know, how can you not give."

People have the misperception that too much money is given to administration, said Geddie, when in fact 87 cents of every dollar is allocated to social service agencies. The remaining 13 cents covers administration and campaign costs.

Geddie said the college has been using the same methods since she's been here. What the college needs, she said, is "a good speaker to come in and tear at the heart strings," and put a face to the need.

Weir said she agrees that the college needs new ideas, but she says that will be up to next year's campaign chairperson. She will be committed to her full-time job as marketing associate of Niagara College's Ventures Division.

Dress-down days will continue till the end of the term, as a result of staff requests, with proceeds going to the United Way.

Shirley Baskey, library technician at the college, said she likes the idea of dress-down days. "It's fun and it's for a good cause."

"We should have dress-up days for the United Way," said David Winters, co-ordinator of Interior Design. "I'd like to wear my tux to school."

Once expenses are covered, any additional funds raised by the Tree of Hope and Sharing project will be donated to the United Way campaign.

A 20-foot Norwegian spruce in Manera Court at the Welland Campus will be lit today at noon. Staff and students can bring a decoration for the Tree of Hope and Sharing and a non-perishable food item for the food drive.

Teachers reveal season's wishes

By NOREEN BOND
Staff Writer

Ho Ho Ho! Merry Christmas!

Children love toys for Christmas. The teddy bears, the cars, the dolls and more. But as they get older, they often wish for more practical gifts. A survey of several Niagara College teachers revealed some surprising Christmas wishes.

"Just peace, happiness and health," said Carole Timm, a member of the Fashion Merchandising Visual Promotions program faculty.

"One day of perfect peace throughout the world," said Lewis Silvestri of the English department.

Eugene Maltais, a political science teacher, said, "'Good health', until you have something go wrong with your body, you really don't appreciate your health." Maltais recently had an eye operation in October.

"A trip to Rome to see my son in the March break," said John Muggeridge, instructor in the English Foundation Studies Division. Muggeridge also said he wanted a new pair of bedroom slippers and a photograph of his son.

"Peace and quiet," added Donna Kerrigan, an English teacher at the college.

"I'd like the New York Rangers to be on their way to the team's first Stanley Cup championship in 50 years. That would be a great gift for a longtime Ranger fan. I've been to New York City many times and fans in that city would go nuts if the Rangers won," said Gary Erb, a Journalism-Print program instructor. "I have a lot of political hardcover books and biographies. I hope this year to add a few more," Erb added.

"I would like a smile, happy people," said Roy Timm, a photographer/teacher.

"I'd love to have a Mac Lab with state of the art technology and enough individual units that every student in the class could have one for instruction use," said Phyllis Barnatt, co-ordinator of the Journalism-Print program.

"A free turkey for every faculty member," said Bruce Tallon, a psychology teacher.

Canadian Press offers scholarship

By JENN SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

The Gil Purcell Memorial Journalism Scholarship for Native Canadians is being offered again this year.

The annual scholarship offers $4,000, plus one summer of employment with the Canadian Press. The scholarship will be awarded to status, non-status, French or English speaking natives who are studying journalism at a Canadian university or community college. Selection of the successful applicant will be made by a Canadian Press awards committee.

The award was established in 1990 in honor of Gillis Purcell, general manager of the Canadian Press from 1945 to 1969. Many of the strengths and traditions of Canadian jorurnalism had their roots in his dedication to the quality of Journalism.

Deadline for applications is Jan., 31, 1994. Applications can be obtained at the Seventh Fire Native Circle office in S102B, native organizations or from Norman Graham, Manager of Employee Relations, The Canadian Press, 36 King St. E., Toronto, Ont., M5CX 2L9, (416) 364-0321 Ext. 278. Fax: (416) 364-9283.

Student makes her mark at Niagara

By TOM BRANK
Staff Writer

Academics, basketball, and Crime Stoppers take care of A, B, C. Shelley Doncaster is working on the alphabet's other 23 letters.

The 22-year-old Niagara College student has come from Oxford, N.S., to study in the Law and Security Administration program.

She learned about the program "by chance" at the resource centre of Saint Francis-Xavier University in Antigonish, N.S., where she received her bachelor of arts degree in sociology. She was looking for colleges that offered a specific program in law and security and that would enable her to eventually join the RCMP upon graduation. After reading about Niagara College's law and security program, she was convinced it was for her. Niagara's two-year law and security program is the second largest program offered at the college.

Doncaster said she enjoys the Niagara area and the friendly people she has met at the college. She is pleased with the campus atmosphere and especially the law and security program itself.

"I really enjoy my classes. The program is everything I thought it was going to be. I've learned a lot already," she said.

But her interest in the program doesn't end in the classroom.

She is also part of the new student-operated Crime Stoppers unit at the college. The unit, set to begin in January, gives students a chance to anonymously report information about crimes on campus in secured mailboxes around the college.

Doncaster has also volunteered with other LASA students doing security at the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival in St.Catharines, and Discover College Day at the Welland campus on Nov. 15

"She is a good example of Law and Security students. She's dedicated, she's committed, she's bright, and those are the students that will succeed," said Law and Security Administration program co-ordinator Heather Hodgson.

Doncaster has made an impact in the college's athletic department as well.

Many students may recognize Doncaster as the woman who plays on the men's basketball team. She was invited to come to a men's basketball practice after Mervin Wright, assistant men's basketball coach, watched her play basketball in the gym one afternoon.

"He said, 'Why don't you come out to practice tonight,' and I just looked at him and laughed," said Doncaster. But Wright was serious and Doncaster came out to the men's practice. After impressing the coaches with her basketball ability, she was asked to join the team.

Doncaster had previously played one year on the women's basketball team at Saint Francis-Xavier University.

"I went out and I proved that I could play the game. They (the team), saw that I was there to play basketball and wasn't there for the attention," said Doncaster. "I was there because I love the game, I want to play and we don't have a women's basketball team."

Men's basketball coach Todd Stevens said Doncaster has been a positive addition to the team.

"She's an asset to this team - she's very aggressive (on the court), and she would not be here if she couldn't play," said Stevens. "She works as hard as anyone on this team."

Doncaster said the guys are "great" teammates and don't make her feel unequal because she's a woman.

"I don't get any special treatment. I get the elbows. I get the picks. I told them, 'I'm one of the guys, and don't treat me any differently'," she said.

"I don't need to be motivated to do something. I really enjoy doing what I do," said Doncaster.

Niagara decorates our Tree of Hope

By ANGELA KOTLARZ
Staff Writer

Niagara College was in the festive spirit this week as staff and students decorated the Tree of Hope and Sharing.

An official tree lighting ceremony has been scheduled for noon today in Manera Court (located in the courtyard surrounded by the Merritt building and the library).

During the week, staff and students were invited to help decorate the tree by bringing a decoration and, if possible, a donation for the school's Food for Friends food drive.

A box was also put in the courtyard for any donations for the Toys for Tots, Welland department and , "any extra monies beyond covering the cost of the tree and so on will go to charities, possibly Food for Friends and the United Way," said Gord McPherson co-ordinator of General College.

Also scheduled for today is a Ho Ho Contest for the best Christmas, "Ho, ho"with a first prize winner and several runner-ups. Staff and students are invited to back up the choir with their favorite instrument, as staff and students join in singing Christmas carols.

"All are welcome," said McPherson, so bring yourself, bring a friend, bring a group and help spread a little Christmas cheer.

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The camera's cornucopia

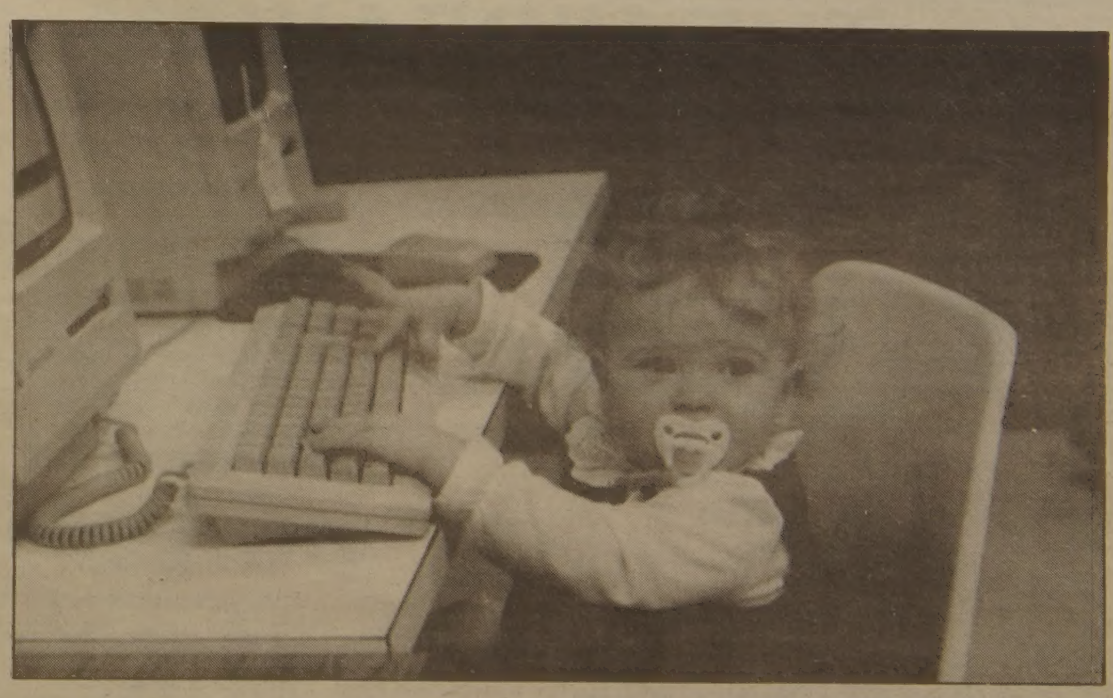
Welland Mayor Dick Reuter visited the Niagara College Early Childhood Centre during the Week of the Child and had the opportunity to meet Barney the purple dinosaur.
Photo by Robin Green

The most visible lunar eclipse in 14 years was viewed last Sunday night across North American skies.
Photo by Tom Brank

The children of the Early Childhood Centre celebrated Hat Day Friday, Nov. 26 at Niagara College.
Photo by Robin Green

Uta Haley, a secretary for the college's Media and Design division, shows off a giant elf costume used at a tree-lighting ceremony in Manera Court at the Welland campus at noon today. The costumes were made by Fashion Merchandising/Visual Promotions program students.
Photo by John Bell

The Canadian Mounties light display is part of the Winter Festival of Lights in Niagara Falls, Ont. (See page 16 for story.)
Photo by Diana Berardi



Sixteen-month-old Madison Winters prepares for the future.
Photo by Chris Russo

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Thursday Dec. 30

Would you vote for these people?

(Continued from page 1)

KUREK

Kurek, 28, is a first-year Law and Security Administration program student from Fonthill. He worked as a freelance plumber for seven years before enrolling in Niagara's General College program last year."I have the skills and ability to organize and I know what should be done internally," but said, "I'm not a power-tripper." He said he keeps up to date with council by reading the weekly minutes of SAC.

OBEE

He volunteers his time setting up pool tournaments in After Hours, where he works as a "runner" clearing tables, but stresses, "I don't want to be stereotyped as a tournament organizer."

Self-described as "a people person," Kurek said, "I'm running not for myself — but for the students at the college.

"I've always gone out of my way to help other people. Always. And

CURRIE

that's what this (position) to me is all about."

Obee, 20, a first-year Journalism-Print program student from St. Catharines, says, "Things on SAC are too quiet."

He studied broadcasting at Mohawk College in Hamilton for two years where he served on Student Representative Council. He was also class representative for the Programming Board, a position which he said is similar to SAC's vice-president internal.

Obee said he wants to ensure information is relayed between students and SAC. As campus news director at Mohawk, Obee said he got an understanding of a variety of courses' needs.

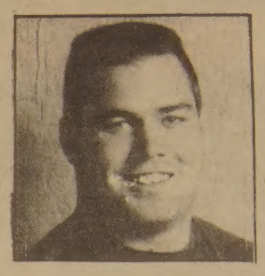
Obee enrolled at Niagara after being laid off from CHSC radio in St. Catharines, having worked there for only 10 weeks.

He said he is "strong-willed" and a good organizer and negotiator who is "determined to complete goals."

Make the drop!

Volunteers help kick-off Niagara College's Food for Friends food drive on Nov. 26. At left is Kevin Jennings, Leanne Newton, Student Administrative Council vice president external, and Clarence Showalter. **Photo by Angela Kotlarz**

Christmas icons controversial



By GREGORY KELLY
Staff Writer

Don't say the 'C' word, it might offend a segment of Canada's multi-cultural community.

The 'C' word is Christmas. A Nov. 10 internal memo from the provincial management board, an advisory board to the New Democratic government in Ontario, stated that all Christmas iconography be prohibited from government lobbies and building exteriors exposed to the public.

I have no problem with the material aspect of Christmas but to worry that the idea of the birth of Christ offends somebody because they don't practice Catholicism, Christianity or belong to any other religous group who recognize Christmas is asinine.

By removing nativity scenes, crucifixes and the word Christmas from official government buildings, we would be teaching people that the material aspect of life is more important than the message behind our culture's holidays.

I realize that the provincial management board does not want to offend any individual or culture but let's get real. This is not just a Canadian holiday, it is celebrated all over the world.

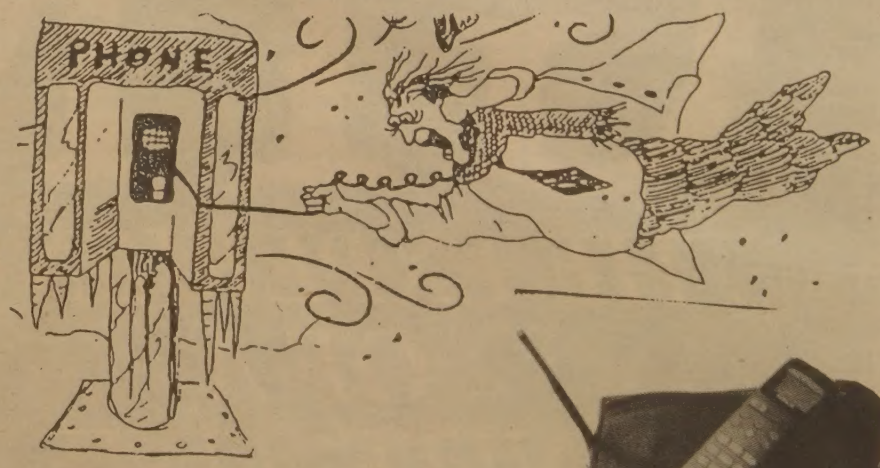
This is not just a Canadian holiday, it is celebrated all over the world

Perhaps it's just me but I thought Christmas was celebrated all around the world. If our government, in its infinite wisdom, wants to ban all of the tradition behind the celebration and wish everybody a non-offensive "Seasons Greetings," it will only be a short time before people forget why the season is being celebrated.

Let's worry less about being offensive and be more concerned with teaching people to accept cultural diversity and not walk on egg-shells each and every holiday.

I really hope colored eggs are not sacred anywhere - the Easter bunny will be unemployed.

Don't Get Left Out In The Cold Again



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Feel the need for speed? Not with photo radar

By JOHN BELL
Staff Writer

Photo Radar will be coming to Ontario next year.

"The target is January 1994," said Ministry of Transportation Senior Media Liaison Officer Anne McLaughlin in a telephone interview.

The new form of radar, which has successfully met two Alberta court challenges, consists of a radar gun and camera. If a vehicle is clocked travelling over the posted speed limit, the device will take a photograph of the rear license plate of the vehicle.

"The camera will go off, and some weeks later, you'll get a photo with a description of the violation," she said. "The owner will be responsible for all tickets."

Alberta was the first province to use photo radar. McLaughlin says Calgary and Edmonton have "been using it (photo radar) successfully for a few years."

OPP Staff Sgt. John Macintosh says one of the "misconceptions" about photo radar is that "it is a supplement" to current officer-controlled radar devices.

"It is an extra enforcement tool," he said in a telephone interview. "The reduction in actual accident rates us up to 52 per cent."

Macintosh said the new radar will be used in "problem areas," where fatalities and injuries are highest. He said Highway 403 is one problem area.

"In 1991, a coroner's inquest recommended that photo radar may be useful on the 403. We will be doing some radar on the 403."

Heather Hodgson, Law and Security Administration program co-ordinator at Niagara College, and a former Peel Region police officer, has mixed feelings about the new radar.

"From an enforcement perspective, speeding is one of the greatest contributing factors to accidents in the province," she said. "From a citizen perspective, I'll be very reluctant to lend my car out because I get the ticket."

Hodgson said she hopes speeding incidents will be lowered once people see the "very severe" speeding fines.

Macintosh said the OPP's projection is to start off with four units. The manufacturer and prices of the units will not be known until the vendor of record becomes available on Dec. 23.

'Supermarket Safari' on the prowl in Region

By ALAN GILDAY
Staff Writer

If you've seen groups of people walking around your local grocery store with clip boards, don't panic.

It's all part of the Niagara Regional Health Department's "Supermarket Safari," which is being conducted in grocery stores throughout the region.

"The aim of the program is to encourage people to make healthier food choices," says Lise Smedmor, a public health dietician.

"There is a great deal of uncertainty when it comes to what's healthy and what's not," she says.

One of the biggest mysteries involves cholesterol. Cholesterol is found only in animal-based products, so if you see the term "cholesterol-free" on certain margarines or snack foods, it shouldn't influence a person's decision to buy because these products never had any in them in the first place. They have fats in them, but they are vegetable-based or polyunsaturated fats.

"These fats are still bad for you as they increase a person's blood pressure, but they are superior to saturated or animal-based fats," Smedmor said.

Margarines also cause confusion in people's minds. "Your choice of margarine should be made by reading the label. The poly and mono saturated fats should add up to six or more. If it's expressed as a percentage, then it should be twice as high as the figure for saturated fats. The word "light" can be deceiving as it means low in fat or calories or light in color. Surprisingly, the number of calories in butter and margarine are the same, but the types of fats are different. Butter has more saturated, or animal-based fats which are harmful. "Soft margarines are best choice,"said Smedmor.

Cooking oils are also deceptive in their labelling. All of them are 100 per cent fat, however, the vegetable-based oils, such as canola are better for us.

The tour reveals some surprising facts. Contrary to popular belief, "Granola is actually high in fat, while corn flakes contain little fiber," Smedmor said.

Some of the chemicals listed on cereal boxes are actually in the packaging. Also bread isn't the villan that it once was. Experts now say it is a good source of fiber and carbohydrates. Ignore the no cholesterol claims as there isn't any in bread. You can forget using ground chicken as an alternative to ground beef. Because the skin is often included, choose ground turkey instead.

"The supermarket tours have been extremely popular so far,"said Smedmor. The tours have been booked solid since they were started. One participant thought that, "the tours are great for people that are trying to change their eating habits."

For more information on the supermarket tours, call 688-3762 or toll-free at 1-800-263-7248.

Winter is just around the corner

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

"Brrr! It's freezing out there!"

It seems I've been hearing this more and more over the past couple of weeks. People are starting to dress in their Arctic clothing and I can see my breath almost every day. I guess these subtle clues can only mean one thing - winter's coming.

With all the leaves gone from the trees and all the birds gone to their winter homes, it's time to brace ourselves against the bitter cold of winter. But don't fret; the coming of winter doesn't have to mean the hibernating of students. Everything may be frozen under a layer of snow, but there are still countless things to do to warm yourself.

Skiing, snowboarding, snowmobile riding and skating are but a few things to do. Soon you will be able to walk down streets that are lined with beautiful, ice-covered trees. An extra cold night, or a sudden snow storm, can also be a good reason to stay inside and cuddle with that special someone.

'Don't think of winter as the time when the Earth dies'

And don't forget that the three biggest holidays of the year - Christmas, New Year's and Spring Break - all take place in the winter.

Don't think of winter as the time when the Earth dies. Mother Nature is just getting everything ready for the season of rebirth, Spring. So go out for a walk in the snow and catch some snowflakes on your tongue. Go have some fun sliding down a hill and if you get too wet and cold, go inside and cuddle.

Have a Merry Christmas and a great New Year. *I'll see you* next term.

Winter weather conditions available for travellers

The Ministry of Transportation's annual winter road reporting telephone service providing travellers with information on road conditions across the province is now available.

The recorded information lines provide weather and traffic-related conditions between 4 a.m. and 10 p.m., seven days a week, until April 2, 1994.

Callers may dial a local number for local road and weather conditions or one of the ministry's toll-free lines for conditions on all provincial and secondary highways.

All telephone numbers allow callers to access information with a touch-tone or cellular phone, or speak directly with an information officer.

The bilingual Road Information Centre in Toronto can be reached at 416-235-1110 or at 1-800-268-1376. The deaf or hard of hearing can call 416-235-4902.

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Health program provides link to medical field

By MONIKA QUECKENSTEDT
Staff Writer

If you want to enter the medical field but you don't have your sciences, Niagara College can help.

For 20 years, Niagara College has upgraded and prepared students who want to enter medical programs through the Health Science Preparatory General College Option program (HSP).

Health Science Preparatory program provides the necessary courses for students who want to go into the medical field but lack the science courses

"The program is medically oriented," said Bob Hurl, of Niagara Falls, Ont., the program co-ordinator. "It's different from high school courses."

In 1973 HSP began as a part-time program, said Hurl who has worked at Niagara College full time for 12 years. "It became a full-time program in 1975 with 30 students."

Enrolment for 1993 is 138 students. Mature students make up 60 per cent of the class while 40 per cent are high school graduates.

"The HSP program provides a great bridge to help get students where they want to go in the health field," said Stuart Duncan, 47, of St. Catharines who teaches physics, biology and chemistry. "Students come back and thank us because they feel they got an advantage."

HSP is a one-year program beginning in September and ending in June with two 18-week terms, said Hurl.

"Through most of the program's life, 70 per cent (of the students) went into nursing and 20 per cent went to dental assistant programs," said Hurl who teaches biology and chemistry. "Now there are less students entering nursing after taking the HSP course than in the past, more entering ambulance and emergency, the same number enter the dental assistant program and a small but growing percentage of students go on to university."

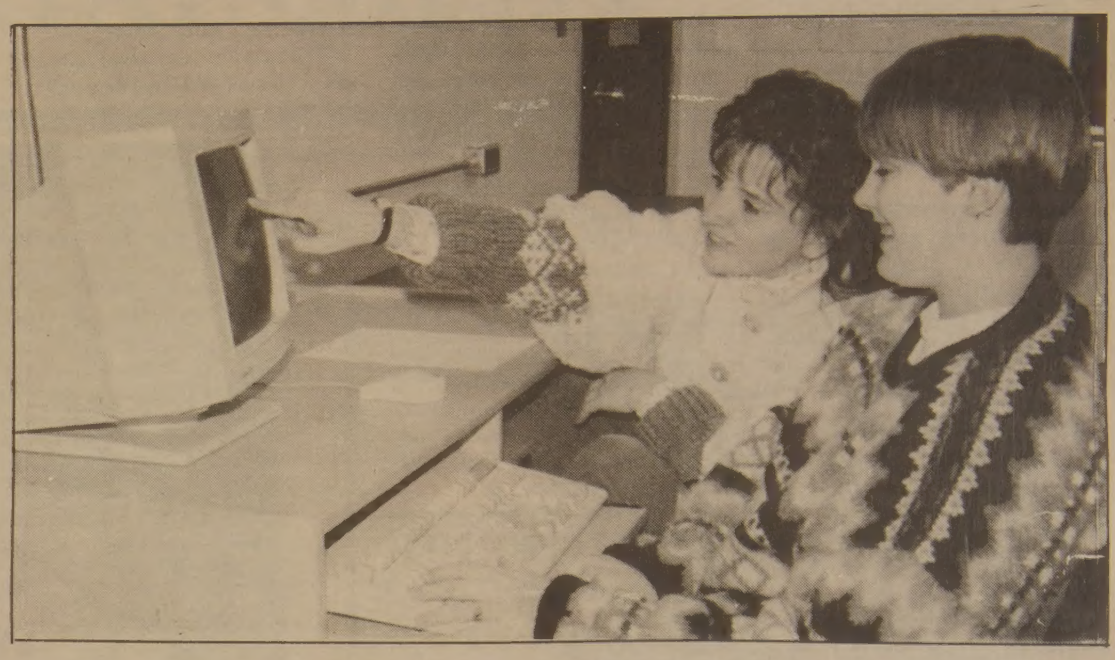
As technology and demands change in the medical field the HSP program changes, Hurl said.

One of the changes in the HSP program is the self-directed learning module (SDLM) set up in Hennepin Hall in addition to regular classes and labs.

"The SDLM saves the college money because the students don't need a teacher," Hurl said.

Every Monday afternoon the room is set up with scientific models, charts, notes and microscopes in conjunction with a chemistry or biology topic for that week.

The SDLM remains set up all week so the students can go through it "at their own speed."



Health Science Preparatory General College Option (HSP) student Christine Lavigne, 22, of Stoney Creek points out something on the computer to HSP student Danielle Rose, 17, of Ridgeway in the self-directed learning module at Niagara College.

Photo by Monika Queckenstedt

The two computers in the room are equipped with educational software including simulated dissection labs and quizzes, said Duncan.

"Stuart Duncan has been instrumental in allowing us to integrate the computers and the SLDM," said Hurl. "He's a computer expert. He ordered the equipment needed, set up the program formats and both of us selected the software we're using in the computers now."

Hurl said the HSP program will move to St. Catharines when the new campus is built in a couple of years.

Too late to withdraw

By CHARLIE KOSCAK
Staff Writer

Students who wish to withdraw from their programs will now not be able to do so.

Provincial guidelines do not allow students to withdraw from programs after two-thirds of the term has been completed. The deadline was Nov. 19.

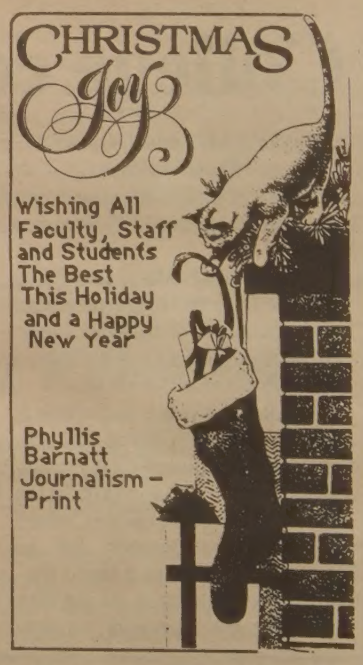
"You remain on the academic roll right up until the end of the term," says Registrar Ivar Noren. "We will not remove you from that registration after the nineteenth."

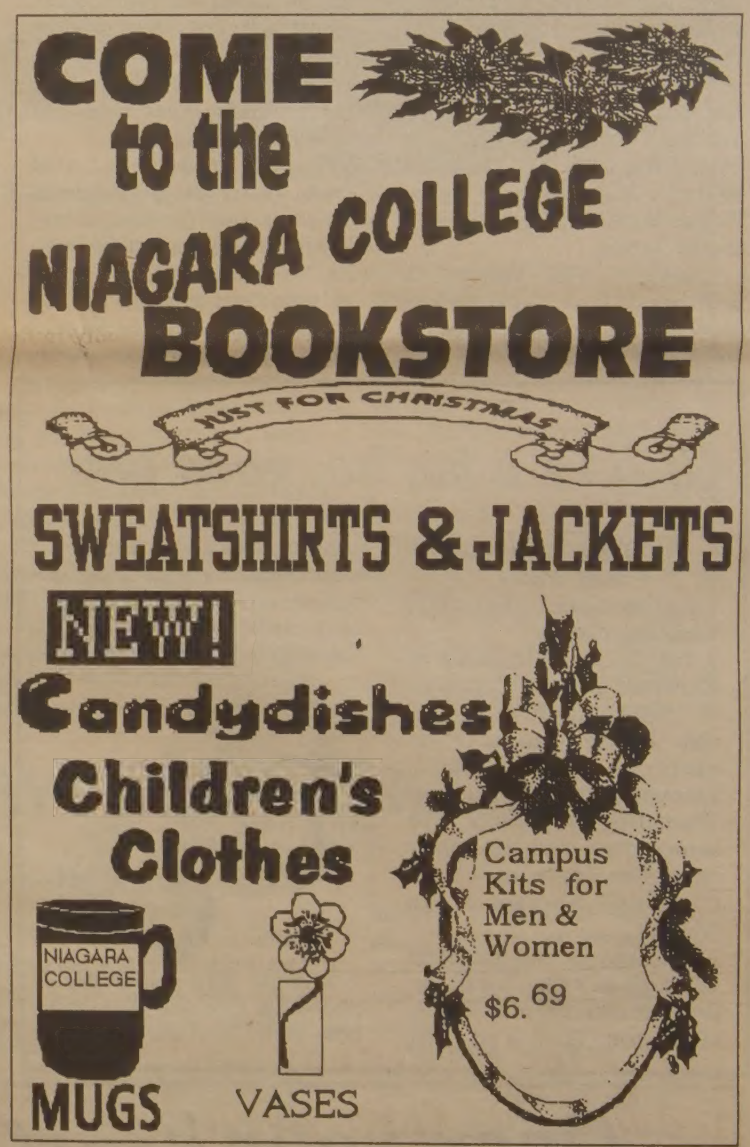
If a student decides to drop out of his or her program after the deadline, the marks will still be recorded on the student's transcripts, says Noren.

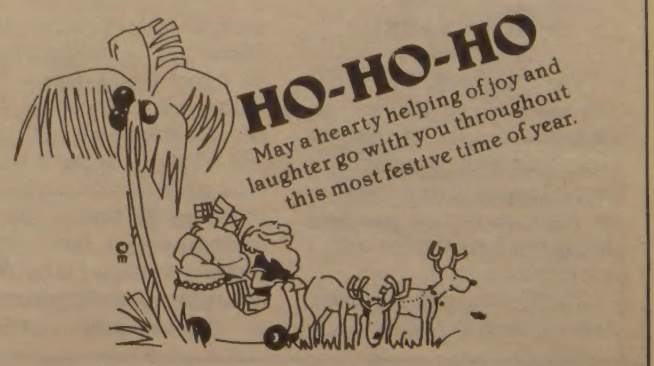
The guideline was established to prevent some students that noticed they have poor grades from withdrawing and returning later.

However, as long as a student passes all of his or her courses, the student will get a diploma, says Noren.

Low marks on a students transcript may or may not be important when a student applies for a job. Noren says if there is a lot of competition for a job, a business may ask to see your transcripts, but it's highly unlikely.


CHRISTMAS
Joy
Wishing All Faculty, Staff and Students The Best This Holiday and a Happy New Year
Phyllis Barnatt
Journalism – Print





Appeal process unfair to students

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

Registrar Ivar Noren said he has formulated some new guidelines for Student Appeals Committee at the college.

"I have a document here but I'm not prepared to publish it," said Noren who wants to test the new guidelines before establishing them as part of the appeals process.

College Council members Tom Fraser and Willard Wright questioned part of the present appeals process at a previous Council meeting and asked Noren to amend it.

Wright and Fraser said they were concerned with the present set up that would send a student's grade back to the same teacher for re-evaluation if a student won an appeal.

Noren said the best way to deal with student appeals is to prevent them. He cited a recent case where a student was intimidated by a teacher and asked for an appeal without conferring with the teacher about the grade. Noren said he convinced the student to discuss the grade with the teacher, the student did and the grade was changed without an appeal.

"Nobody likes an appeal," he said. "We like to intervene. Some of the teachers and students become very hostile and say things they shouldn't say."

Entrepreneurs as women in the 1990s?

By DONNA DOLYNSKY
Staff Writer

Self-reliance through self-employed training is the focus for the Business Opportunities for Women program expected to start Jan. 24, 1994.

This new program sponsored by Niagara College and NITAC, is designed to encourage women to play a significant role in broadening the base of self-employment and new enterprise development.

"There are still significant barriers preventing women from breaking ground with entreprenuarship," said Barb Okanik, Business Development Officer of Ventures, as she focused on difficulties that hinge to financing, lack of support and lack of self-confidence women often face.

The program invites input from housewives and mothers, regardless of marital status, who would like to start their own business or market a product. Existing entrepreneurs who wish to expand are also welcome.

The start-up consists of a 10-week in-class training session which includes seminars with guest speakers such as Jill Dunn, the founder of the Niagara Women's Network, and local entrepreneur Mary Ann Van der Griendt. Guest speakers from groups like the Canadian Women's Foundation and Candian Women Inventors Association will also be invited.

Students will convey a entrepreneurial self-assessment, develop skills for market research and build a stategic business plan.

The program will also help students to fine-tune computer skills, business application and teach participants personal financial management through the analysis of accurate record keeping.

To ensure the students receive the best possible opportunities, a 10-week after-care session will guide, counsel and support the women to help overcome any possible barriers.

"Students will be accountable to themselves," Okanik said, adding that they won't be receiving marks such as 75 or 80 per cent, but must worry whether or not their business plan will cut it.

Entrepreneurs must demonstrate flexibility

Okanik

"They have a lot on the line and students will determine their own destiny," she said.

The cost of the program is a $125 nominal fee to cover the expenses of material.

The outline of the program is flexible to suit students' needs and is easily subject to change.

"We will be flexible," said Okanik. "After all, entrepreneurs must demonstrate flexibility to survive and maintain a healthy business."

A selection process for the Business Opportunities for Women program will begin in December and run until early January.

"Women are very good at business," Okanik said,"and they will be the entrepreneurs of the 90s."

The Innovations Centre encourages all students to return at least once a month to seek out extended networking, share in counselling and learn of any news in the business world through the research centre located at the St. Catharines campus.

Barb Okanik, Business Development Officer of Ventures, stands next to the tree of entreprenuers. When a student opens a business or creates a product at which point start bringing in returns, they are invited to return to the Innovations Centre and have their business recognised on the tree.

Photo by Donna Dolynsky

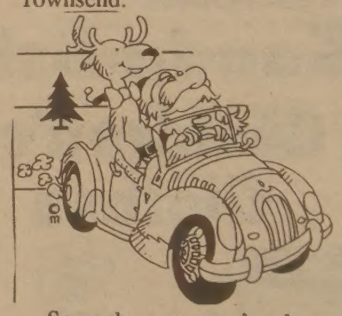
It'll be a ho, ho, good time

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

It's time again for the I.E.E.E. Christmas party.

The I.E.E.E. (Institute of Electrical/Electronics Engineers) is a Niagara College student club. The club consists of students in the Electronics, Electrical and Computer Technology programs. The annual party will take place Friday, Dec. 3 at Destiny's Night Club, 647 Niagara St. in Welland.

A dinner for club members will begin at 5 p.m., but all students are encouraged to drop by after 7 p.m. There is no cover and there will be a special guest. Santa Claus will be there to give presents to his "special helpers," said club President Helga Townsend.



So make sure you've been good little girls and boys, and bring your Christmas wish list!

College council changes face

By STUART MCDONALD
Staff Writer

College Council has new executive officers for the 1993-94 school year.

Ron Mottola, Mary Lou Eden, Bob Baddeley and Kristen Sorensen were acclaimed to the four executive positions at the Oct. 20, Council meeting.

Mottola, last year's vice-chair is the new chair of College Council. The College Council Constitution states that his responsibilities include chairing all College Council meetings from October 1993 to September 1994 using basic parliamentary procedures. Along with other executive members, Mottola will accumulate agenda items and send out agendas and notices to council members one week before Council meetings.

Eden is vice-chair and will act as chair in Mottola's absence. She is also responsible for monitoring the College Council Constitution.

Students are welcome

Baddeley is the new membership chair and will chair the membership committee which reviews the membership structure of College Council to ensure it continues to provide representation across campuses, division and reporting levels, states the Constitution. Baddeley will also monitor the attendance of Council members.

Sorensen is the executive secretary and will send approved Council minutes to college governing bodies and media, states the Constitution. She will also notify the President of all motions passed by Council.

College Council is an advisory body to the President on college-related issues and meets on the third Wednesday of every month in the staff cafeteria at 3 p.m.

Students are welcome.

Open your heart and give to those at Xmas

By JOHN SARKO
Staff Writer

The Christmas season can increase stress on families who are in dire straights. The Niagara area offers many programs for people in need of food and shelter. Agencies can use your help during this busy time to collect and distribute food.

The Community Resource Action Centre in Welland operates a soup kitchen at 77 Division St. Volunteers are needed to pack food hampers. If you wish to volunteer contact Vickie between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at 788-0744. If you are in need of food, an application can be made by calling the centre. The soup kitchen offers lunch daily, Monday through Friday. Work information and referral services are also available. The Open Arms Mission on Fifth Street also provides meals daily.

In Fonthill, a food drive is being held on Saturday, Dec. 4. Anyone interested in volunteering their time can go to the Fonthill Lions Club on Highway 20 East. Food can be dropped off at the Lions Club, Claire Cycle on Highway 20 and Century 21 at the Quaker Road and South Pelham Street intersection.

In St. Catharines, the Christians Action Centre, at 132 King St., provides three meals daily, Monday through Friday. The centre is open 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Food baskets and groceries can be obtained by calling John or Jennifer at 988-9888.

ENTERTAINMENT

Red Hot compilation

By CHRIS RUSSO
Staff Writer

"Alternative rock doesn't exist" according to the liner notes in recently released*No Alternative* benefit album.

This album, while definitely not mainstream, contains some of today's hottest acts including Soul Asylum, Smashing Pumpkins, Buffalo Tom, The Breeders and many more.

There are 20 previously unreleased tunes listed on the back of the liner, plus an uncredited track included as the final song. To tell you would be unfair, but you won't be disappointed.

According to a press release from BMG/Arista Records, the album's profits will go to "benefit world-wide AIDS care, education and prevention."

The album was produced by the Red Hot Organization, which was formed in 1989 to raise money for AIDS, along with the AIDS Music Project. The organization has sold about 2 million copies of two other albums and raised "over $7 million" for it's cause.

The album contains styles, from Grunge to rock. Whatever your preference, this is a great addition to any collection and you'll also be helping a good cause.

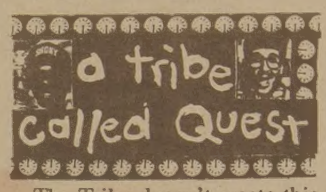
The release of the album, Nov. 12 in Canada, is to coincides with December, World AIDS Month.

Funky formula

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

On their latest release *Midnight Marauders*, A Tribe Called Quest stick to the funky formula that has brought them success in the past.

With laid-back vocals, slow tempo riffs, and catchy samples by such patriarchs of funk as Kool and the Gang, *Midnight Marauders* is a palatable meal of Hip-Hop and Rap.



The Tribe doesn't waste this opportunity to spread some messages of hope. In between songs a robot-like female voice interjects with warbley words of wisdom on topics ranging from AIDS ("Education is the proper means of slowing it down") to the almighty gun ("You're not any less of a man if you don't pull the trigger"), although the positive vibe does not include women ("Put the ho's in their f*****g place.")

Although they fail to produce a tune as catchy as their hit *Anita Applebum*, there is a couple of strong tunes in *8 Million Stories and a tribute to the nocturnal animal in all of us, Midnight.*

If you've enjoyed A Tribe Called Quest in the past, or you just enjoy soft melodic Hip-Hop beats with crafty lyrics, you'll enjoy this latest offering.

College welcomes 'Back on Campus' Cotter

By TOM BRANK
Staff Writer

Comedian Simon B. Cotter loves what he does.

" I've got the greatest job in the world. I see stupid things and I comment on them," he says.

Cotter, entertained a full house at After Hours pub last Thursday afternoon on his "Back on Campus" comedy tour.

Niagara College was the final stop for the comedian after appearing at 68 colleges and universities across Canada since early September.

"I've done 68 warm-up shows for today," joked the 32-year-old Toronto comic.

Just how funny is Simon B. Cotter? Well, funny enough to be the first Canadian comedian to reach the finals of the 1993 International Comedy Festival in San Franciso, Calif.

Campus Canada - the national magazine for university students - called him, "decidedly anti-racist, anti-sexist, and always hysterical." Cotter describes his comedy as "edgy."

"When I started comedy, I was the different guy," says Cotter. "Now I'm in vogue."

Touring is something Cotter thrives on, especially playing campus dates.

He says students are intelligent, and that makes his style of comedy funny for them. Cotter himself spent four years at the University of Toronto getting his degree in history and political science.

Cotter keeps 'em laughing at After Hours.
Photo by Tom Brank

On stage, Cotter talks about everything from food to relationships to hospital trips, and *every bit is extremely funny.*

Getting two corporate sponsors (Jos. Louis and Pizza Pizza) for his tour, Cotter can't help but endorse both products: "My friend says to me - 'How can you eat those things (Jos. Louis') - they have a shelf life of 20 years? - 'Not in my house they don't, I said'."

He also talks about his fascination with eating so much pizza, Pizza Pizza memorized *his* phone number and asked to sponsor his tour.

The audience smiles and laughs at Cotter's comedy, particularly when he answers hecklers. Students cheered him back on stage for an encore.

"He was great. He dealt with real issues and made them funny," said Cindy Thompson, 21, a Health Sciences program student.

If you see Simon B. Cotter, you'll laugh - 40, 000 students across Canada can't be wrong.

Flick's plot as mechanical as RoboCop

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

He's part man and part machine.

He's appearing in his third motion picture.

He's RoboCop.

He's not worth the price of admission.

Fred Dekker is the third director to bring RoboCop back to the screen in an effort to cash-in on the indestructable crime fighter.

Very little is different about this film compared to the first two RoboCops. The formula is the same — include several explosions, lots of gunfire, wreck a few cars, and disable RoboCop so someone has to repair him.

The original RoboCop, Peter Weller, got out when he should have, leaving Robert Burke to fill the role. Burke was an excellent casting decision made by Steven Jacobs. With a little makeup, Jacobs has transformed Burke into a duplicate of Weller.

The movie is about a group of citizens living in Cadillac Heights who are being evicted by Rehab officers of Omni Consumer Products (OCP). Keeping in step with time, OCP is now owned by the Japanese, who are determined to build Delta City where Detroit's slums are located.

Cadillac Heights rebels take possession of a computer whiz-kid, played by Remy Ryan, who was separated from her family by Rehab. Dr. Marie Lazarus, Jill Hennessey, also tags up with the rebels to service RoboCop when necessary.

RoboCop has had a few modifications in this episode. He is now equipped with a grenade launcher and has been given the ability to fly.

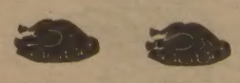
OCP is still the villain and once again they need a superoutlaw — this time it's a RoboNinja named Otomo, played by Bruce Locke. Rip Torn plays the chief of police.

Continuity of facts is the only strong feature of this movie. Nancy Allen reprises her role as Constable Anne Lewis, but only for a brief appearance, and other familiar faces loiter at police headquarters. Defence robot N-209 has a recurring role and trademark TV broadcasts are weaved into the story line, including a commercial featuring the zany salesman who cries "I'll buy that for a dollar."

The film wraps up faster than it took for producers to think of creating RoboCop 3.

If plans are in the works for RoboCop 4, the superhero's next logical opponent will be Godzilla.

This movie rates two stars out of five.



Williams in the house

By CHARLIE KOSCAK
Staff Writer

After Mork, Aladdin's Genie, and a bat, Robin Williams goes to the silverscreen with a new persona, and hit movie, Mrs. Doubtfire.

Four and a half hours of makeup transformed Williams into a 60-year-old housekeeper. And the all work to film the movie was worth it.

Williams plays Daniel Hillard, an out-of-work father of three who is only allowed to see his children one day of the week. His wife, Miranda Hillard (Sally Field), asked for a divorce and got sole-custody of the children.

The movie starts slowly - before the divorce - but when Miranda places an ad for a housekeeper to take care of the children, Robin Williams puts himself in high gear and takes the film off to where no other actor could have taken it.

Given Hollywood's predictable handling of movies about children and divorce, I was pleasantly surprised the movie had a realistic and happy ending.

Williams is amazingly restraint in his roles as Danial Hillard and Mrs. Doubtfire. Those looking for him to launch into his rapid fire routine he uses for his stand-up comedy should look elsewhere. However, his energy practically explodes from the screen.

The rest of the actors and actresses pale in comparison to Williams. Surprisingly, even Sally Field is upstage by Mara Wilson, who played five-year-old Natalie Hillard, the youngest of the children.

Don't expect for the surprise of seeing Williams in his make-up to become tiring. This is one funny movie that doesn't have to rely on the special effects to become a hit.

Wishing You And Yours A Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Joyeux Noel
et
Bonne et heureuse année
Services en langue française

Seasons Greetings
and
Happy Holidays
from the staff in the
Office of the Registrar

Seasons Greetings
To: everyone at
Niagara College
From: the
Learning Resource Centre

Seasons Greetings
To all of you
From all of us at
Continuing Education

T'was the 'Knight' before Christmas...

Happy Holidays
from the
Athletics Department

Ancillary Operations

Best Wishes for a
Very Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year

Seasons Greetings
from
the staff of
Reprographics

Seasons Greetings
from the management and staff of:
Versa Foods

Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year
From the
Campus Bookstore

Happy Holidays
from the
Early Childhood Centre

SEASON'S GREETINGS
& Wishing You All the Best
For '94
The
Ventures Division

- *Access & General Education*
- *Continuing Education*
- *Joint Ventures*
- *Marketing & Communications*
- *Skills Development*
- *Technical Skills Training*
- *The Centre for Environmental Training*

President's Christmas Message

I hope that 1993 has been both exciting and rewarding for all of you.

In order for our students and our College to thrive in difficult times, everyone must stay focused on our common goal...the successful completion of your studies. Your part in this journey is to take full advantage of your post-secondary education, a privilege which in most parts of the world is afforded to very few. The part of faculty and staff in a caring institution of higher learning such as Niagara College is to do their utmost to help you successfully reach this important plateau.

I know I speak for all of those associated with the College--the Board of Governors, Advisory Committees, the Niagara College Foundation, faculty and staff--when I say we look forward to your return in January and, ultimately, to the successful completion of your studies at Niagara College.

My sincere best wishes for a safe, relaxing, and happy holiday season. May 1994 be very kind to you.

John T. Saso
President

Seasons Greetings
and
Happy New Year
from all
the staff in
Student Services

You Create It All

Whether you're in first, second or third year, give yourself new power as a student in 1994. Over the Christmas break, figure out what worked for you in your educational experience in 1993 and what didn't.

There are wonderful rewards for you at the other end of your time at Niagara. There are strong challenges at this end. Don't miss the chance to make 1994 count. If you need help, ask for it. If you need an ear, there are faculty advisors, counsellors, teachers and "College Success" grads from Gens. 109 ready to listen.

Have a great Christmas. Build a terrific New Year.

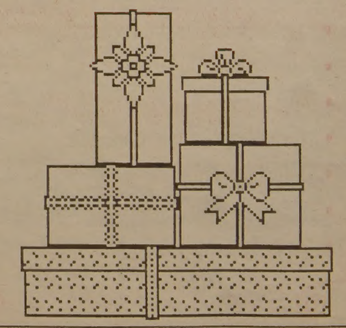
David Schleich
Vice-President
Academic

&

Pat Clay
Administrative
Assistant

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Please drink responsibly over this festive holiday, and throughout your school year from the staff at "AFTER HOURS"



By CHRIS RUSSO

ENTERTAINMENT

Winter brightened by Festival of Lights

Fantasia is one of 13 Enchantment of Disney Motion Light Displays in the Winter Festival of Lights. Displays are lit from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. until Jan. 15.

Photo by Diana Berardi

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

A spectacle of lights, shows and attractions are all part of the 11th annual Winter Festival of Lights in Niagara Falls.

More than 40 displays were illuminated on Nov. 20 during the opening ceremonies in Queen Victoria Park at the base of Murray Hill.

The ceremony opened with the live performance by children's entertainer Doug Barr, followed by a fireworks display set off by the official flipping of the switch to turn on the lights. Taking the stage later in the evening were the comedy and musical team Malton and Hamilton and the acoustic pop trio, The Waltons.

On Nov. 26 and 27 the magic of Disney came to life in the musical performance of Twas the Night Before Christmas. Audiences were entertained by the antics of Mickey, Minnie, Goofy, Pluto, Chip n' Dale, Brer Bear, Frosty the Snowman and six singers and dancers performing a variety of Christmas favorites.

In this 22-minute show, Mickey and Minnie were the parents, Goofy played Santa, Pluto was a reindeer, and various characters appeared in Toyland. Tunes included White Christmas, Jingle Bells, Toyland, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, Frosty the Snowman and We Wish You a Merry Christmas.

The Festival of Lights features 13 enchantment of Disney motion light displays which are illuminated each night between 5:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Three new themes added this year include Tim Burton's Nightmare Before Christmas, Mickey's Toontown and Dinosaurs.

The Winter Festival of Lights continues through to Jan. 15 with several events still to come.

Events include:

-Fireworks over the Falls on Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18 and Jan. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

-Art by the Falls on Dec. 11 and 12 at Niagara Falls Optimist Park featuring arts and crafts by 75 Canadian artists.

-Christmas Parade on Dec. 11 at 11 a.m. on King Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

-Disney at the Imax theatre on Dec. 28 and 29 featuring the Disney classics Beauty and the Beast and the Rocketeer.

-New Year's Eve Niagara Falls on Dec. 31 at Queen Victoria Park. Festivities begin at 7:30 p.m. with children's entertainer, Sandra Beech, followed by Rockabilly band The Tin Eddies. Headlining musical guests include Colin James and George Fox. Fireworks will explode at 9 p.m. and again at midnight. Admission is free to this non-alcoholic celebration.

-Second International 8-Ball Challenge on Jan. 9 at Shaboom nightclub on the third floor in Maple Leaf Village.

-Closing ceremonies featuring a kid's concert on Jan. 15 at 3 p.m. in Queen Victoria Park. Activities include sing-a-long performances by the Funland Band characters and the Skara Brae Highland Dancers. Face painters, clowns and buskers will entertain the crowds. Admission is free.

Circus freaks make perfect Christmas gift

By JENN SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

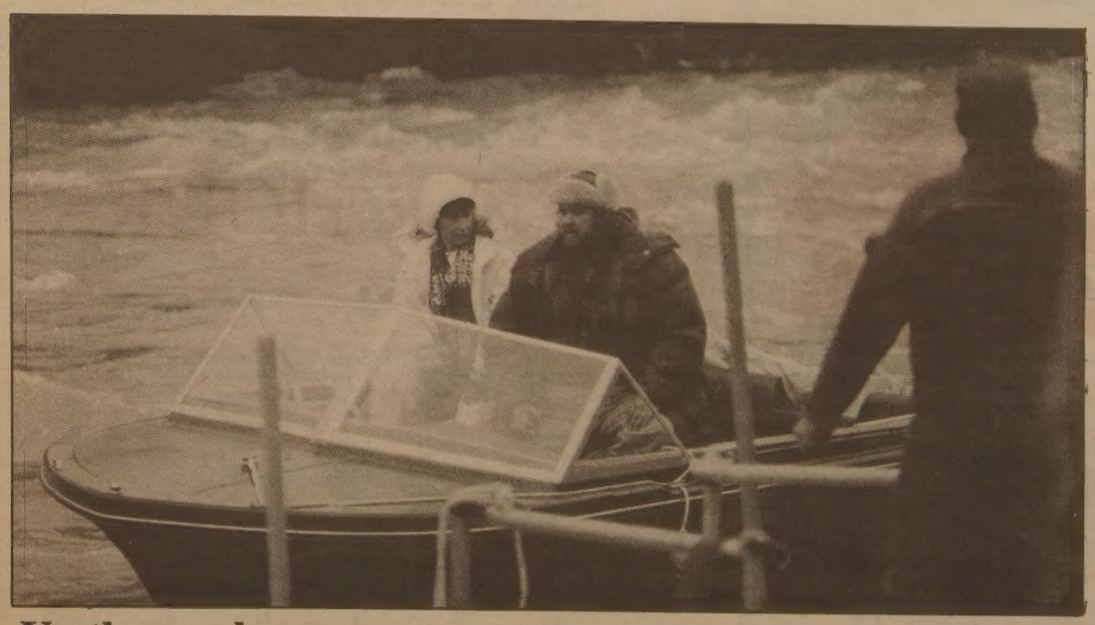
Still searching for that perfect Christmas gift for your fatally-attracted ex-lover, mother-in-law, teacher that's failing you or perhaps your eccentric, iron-stomached friend?

American records has released the yet-to-be, cult classic guaranteed to make your sensitive friends blow chunks. This one's for all those who's morbid sense of humor makes them itch for the sight of blood at a roadside accident.

The Jim Rose Circus Sideshow videotape is a 35-minute ride into the unmatched abilities of Matt "the Tube" Crowley, the Enigma, Mr. Lifto, the Torture King and Jim Rose. Most of you probably remember hearing about the freak show from those who were lucky enough to have witnessed the show at Lollapalooza '92.

Observe world-record sword swallower, the Enigma, duplicate his feat from the sword's point of view after he devors wriggling, mini-beasties while playing see-food with the camera. Examine the Tube siphon a putrid concoction through seven feet of tubing up his nose, then reverse the process and offer his stomach brew to members of the audience. Enter the mind of the Torture King as he takes the shape of a shishkabob, piercing his face with a meat skewer. Ogle at the crunch of Jim Rose's face kiss broken glass. And, of course, pay your respects to the Amazing Mr. Lifto as he frees his willy and gives new meaning to the dance the Twist.

Call it art, call it science, call it sick. The sideshow drama is real; no Hollywood cheese ending; no lame effects; no disappointing acting. Reality has never been so colorful.



Up the creek

John Candy and Rhea Perlman shoot a river scene at the Wellandvale campus of Niagara College in St. Catharines.

Photo by Tom Brank

Country artist produces recording 'On the Road'

By ALAN GILDAY
Staff Writer

On the Road, the latest release from Texas country sensation Lee Roy Parnell is what you might expect from the new breed of country artists that have burst on the music scene in the last few years.

Highlights on the album include the rocking songs, "Straight Shooter," "Fresh Coat of Paint" and a Texas dance-hall remake of the old Hank Williams standard, "Take These Chains." There are also some fine ballads about love and relationships that are filled with bits of home-spun wisdom, but none of them are particularly memorable.

Unlike Parnell's first two albums, which yielded smash hits like "What Kind of Fool (Do You Think I am)" and "Love at this Moment," there are very few songs on this album that will reach the same height with the exception of "Straight Shooter."

Parnell does take a philosophical approach to his songwriting. "I've got to have something that shows a little struggle, yet still shows hope," says Parnell in a press release. "There's always an answer. It may not be the one you want. I don't like things that are real flowery because that isn't the way life is," he added.

Parnell started his career in 1987 as most artists did, playing one night stands in smoky Nashville cafes and driving a '76 Torino. "Before I knew it, I had a record deal with Arista. Things just kind of developed over time," the press release added.

LEE ROY PARNELL

On The Road was literally produced on the road as Parnell and his band continued to tour through the entire production stage. One of the good points of the album is the fact that Parnell chose to include a mixture of different songs so that the album isn't dominated by ballads as many country albums are. Parnell's popularity and the popularity of the new country music in general, can be attributed to the fact that many country artists have incorporated many aspects of rock into their work.

SPORTS

Knights score 22 goals in two games

By STUART MCDONALD
By Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights hockey team has scored 22 goals in their last two wins to move their record to 3-1 on the season.

On Nov. 20, Niagara beat St.Lawrence College from Brockville 11-6 at the Welland Arena. The Knights were led by Dave Crane who scored four goals and Mike Emond who scored three. Pete Lachance chipped in with five points.

Knights' assistant coach Jim Beattie said he was pleased with the 11 goals but he added, the team has to be more "defensively minded."

"We had a good game all round," said Knights' coach Fred Bassi. "Rob LeMaitre started (in goal) and made a lot of good first saves."

Crane, Lachance and Chris Duerden had two goals each. Emond, Mike Matier, Brian Essery, Len Hale and Joe Covelli had singles.

Bassi said next Saturday's home game against Sudbury's Cambrian College is "important" because it's against a division rival and Niagara's division (Costello) is much stronger than the other division (Parker).

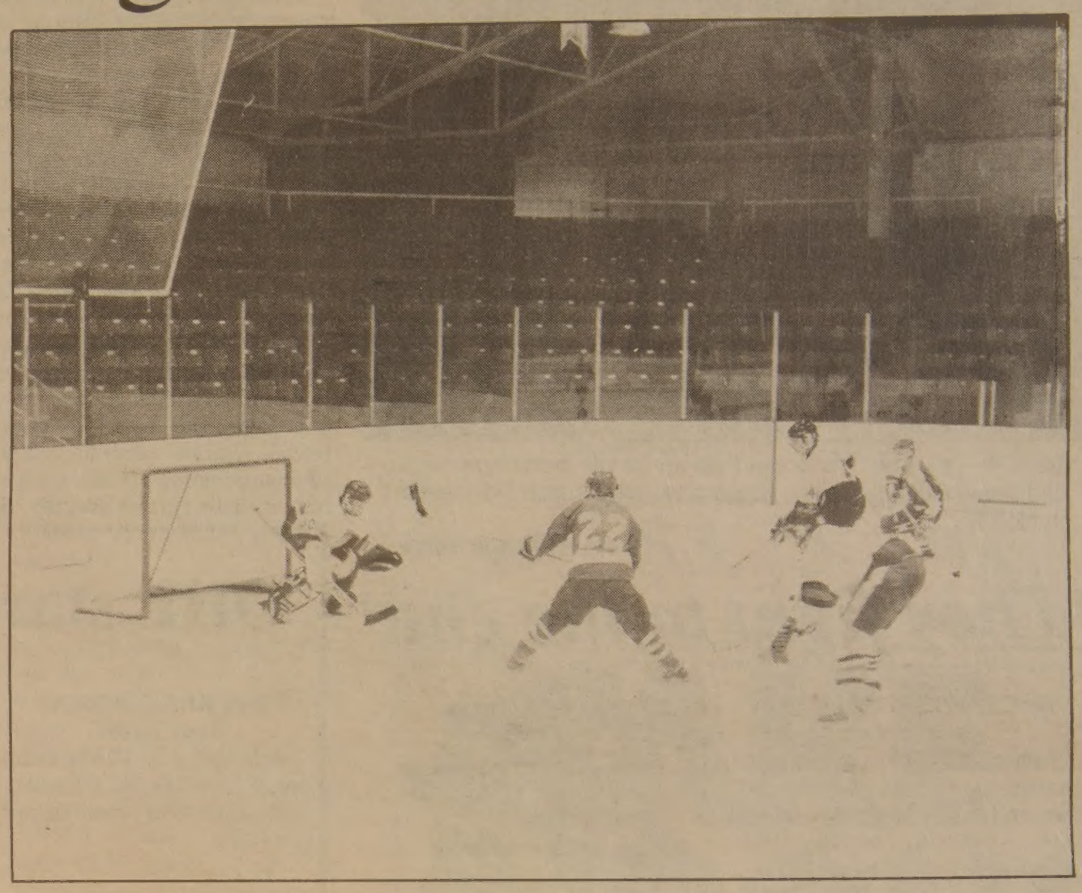
"Our division is 8-2 against the Parker division. They have one team—Algonquin—that can beat any team on any given night. Other than Algonquin the colleges in the Parker are small and their teams aren't as strong," said Bassi.

'We had a good game all round'

Bassi

The Nov. 26 game in Peterborough against Sir Sandford Fleming was the Knights first road game of the season and they beat Peterborough's Fleming 11-3.

The Knights could move into first place in the Costello division with a win over Cambrian Saturday at the Welland Arena. Game time is 8 p.m.



Jason Buote (No.22), Niagara Knights' leftwinger, backhands a shot off the St. Lawrence Schooners' goaltender in the Knights' 11-6 home win Nov. 20. The Knights beat Peterborough's Sir Sandford Fleming 11-3 a week later in Peterborough to move their record to a solid 3-1 on the season.

Photo by Stuart McDonald

Beamsville's Bill Berg beats big odds

By PEGGY TEDDER
Staff Writer

It all started at the Beamsville Arena.

Not watching Hockey Night in Canada. He didn't even like watching hockey on televison. He just loved to play.

Bill Berg's dream of an NHL career started at 5 a.m., on a sheet of ice in Beamsville arena. Snow days were the best, when he didn't have to go to school, he and his younger brother Bob would walk over to the arena and wrangle some free ice time.

Berg, 26, left-wing for the Toronto Maple Leafs has come a long way since his early days as a minor hockey player in Beamsville.

When he wasn't in school he could be found at the arena. Any arena. "At the time, Beamsville had Junior C, I played both Junior C and Midget, it was great for me because I got to play hockey five to six days a week," said Berg.

Berg's mother Carol, remembers well, "we were always on the go, hockey in the winter, baseball in the summer, but it was a family affair, we all went along and had a good time."

Doug Robinson, former owner of Doug's Sports in Beamsville, says "leaving the arena after many games of Bill's age group, a local resident could be heard to say regularly: My, that Bill Berg is a good hockey player. Someday he'll make the big time, somebody else is getting all the credit because they scored the goals."

Berg began playing Junior B in Grimsby. With each small victory his star soon began to shine.

Skip Gillham, counsellor and physical education teacher at Beamsville District Secondary School said Berg was a top athelete in high school. "He showed a determined work ethic - practice and improve. He was a major contributor to both championship basketball and cross country. The football team would have loved to have him, but hockey always got in the way."

'I wouldn't know Bill Berg if I ran over him with my car'

Pat Burns

Originally drafted by the Sudbury Wolves, Berg's rights were traded to the Toronto Marlies where he played from 1985 to 1986.

Through classes at George F. Henry Secondary School in Toronto, correspondence courses and summer school in St. Catharines, Berg was able to earn his Grade 13 diploma and graduate from Beamsville.

A third-round draft pick by the New York Islanders in 1986 found him walking on air. "I was at the draft in Montreal, it was really hard waiting 2 1/2 hours for your name to be called. When I heard my name I jumped out of my seat," said Berg.

However, it didn't take long to find the road to the NHL "wasn't exactly all roses." For the next three years Berg was sent down to the American Hockey League's Springfield Indians. "Each year it was like another kick in the teeth, I wasn't good enough again."

Encouraged to have fun by his wife Wendy, he scored third highest in the league and eventually was sent up to the Islanders in 1988.

Berg played 86 games for the Islanders from 1988 to 1991, scored ten goals with 16 assists and accumulated 26 points.

Berg was traded to the Toronto Maple Leafs on Dec. 3, 1991. "We were in Buffalo playing the Sabres when I was called off the ice and told about the trade. I was thrilled, I grew up with the Leafs!"

Berg and wife Wendy packed as quickly as they could and drove all night. They were going home.

As soon as they got to.Grimsby they picked up a copy of the Toronto Sun just to see a quote by Leafs coach Pat Burns. It read: "I wouldn't know Bill Berg if I ran over him with my car."

Not a great start.

"The Leafs were in a bit of a skid at the time I started playing, we lost a few, but then everything pulled together and we took off," said Berg.

Berg says wearing the No. 10 jersey, formerly worn by George Armstrong and Syl Apps is a "great honor."

Berg attributes the success of the Leafs to the hiring of Cliff Fletcher who in turn brought in Pat Burns.

"They pick the right people and give them the right roles. With this team the players respect the organization and go out and give them their best. This is the best group of guys that I have played with in pro hockey."

Aspiring to win one more game than they did last year is what he's working toward at present. Then off to the Stanley Cup. "That will make it all worthwhile."

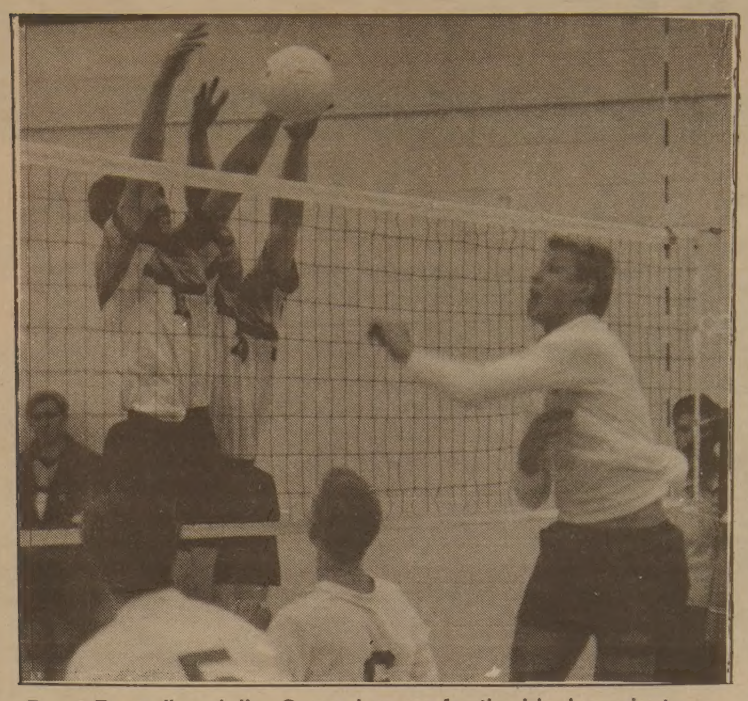
"As a minor player he was always considered a gentlemanly player, what a change now! He provided many hours of entertainment to the town hockey fans in the local arena. Now we watch him on TV!" said Robinson.

Berg said he loved living in Beamsville. "Once you've lived in a small town there is a camaraderie with the people that you never forget, it carries over into what you do late in life."

Berg says he doesn't really like the direction minor hockey is taking. "We in the NHL are partly to blame, with the image that is portrayed. That is not the game I grew up playing. It is such a beautiful game if the violence is shut out."

When asked what advice he would give to his fans he counsels: "What ever you do, do it to the best of your ability, don't cheat yourself. I was lucky, but it also took a lot of hard work. If you work hard, whether it be in school or sports, a good break will come your way."

V-ball team ends first-half of season on high



Brent Roszell and Jim Conrad go up for the block against a Redeemer College player. Niagara won the match 3-1 played on Nov.18.

Photo by Frank Serra

By FRANK SERRA
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights men's volleyball team should enjoy the holidays a bit more with having grabbed sole possession of second place.

The Knights played in their last tournament before the holidays in Ancaster, Ont., at Redeemer College. Niagara swept their three games beating Sir Sandford Fleming, St. Lawrence and, their toughest match, Algonquin College.

In front of a capacity crowd, Niagara and Algonquin played one of the best matches ever played in Division 2, said Niagara coach, Ray Sarkis. The two teams traded hit for hit. Algonquin took game one in the best three-out-of-five match but Niagara came back to take the second game and set up a deciding final game. The entire match lasted an incredible two hours with no advantage going to either team. Niagara pulled off an amazing 18-16 win with "one of their best efforts of the year." Jim Conrad and Eric VanHuzen had 21 kills each. Brent Roszell was very sharp as he contributed with 16 kills. Donald Shantz was outstanding at setting the hitters all weekend.

On to Barrie, Ont., where Niagara faced Georgian College on Nov. 24. "We dug ourselves into a hole and never recovered," said coach Sarkis. Sarkis had many reasons why his Knights dropped a 3-1 match to the weaker Georgian College. "We had poor blocking. You can't win making only that many blocks in a game." The Knights blocked less than 10 of Georgian's shots. Offensively the Knights were consistent with Eric VanHuzen and Jim Konrad each registering 11 kills with support coming from Brian Dunn, Brent Roszell and Luke Ashton.

Niagara held its first home game of the year against Redeemer College on Nov. 18. The Knights got off to a slow start but prevailed in the end winning the match 3-1. In game one, Niagara was down 7-0 before Knights coach Ray Sarkis called a timeout. "I just told the guys to regroup, think out there and get there feet moving," he said. The advice was taken well because Niagara came back strong to win game one 15-13. Redeemer won game two 17-16 in a back and forth game but had no luck against the stronger Knights losing the next two games. Niagara got strong offensive performances from Jim Conrad and Brent Roszell.

On Nov. 12, Niagara took part in an always important league tournament at Cambrian College in Sudbury. The team's only loss came at the hands of the host school. "We lost a tough match against Cambrian. It's a fight for first place between us and them," said Niagara coach Ray Sarkis.

The Knights return to league action on Friday, Jan. 21,1994 .

'They fight to the end'

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

Although the Niagara Knights women's volleyball team did not fare well in an Ottawa tournament last weekend, coach John Kwiatkowski is not worried.

"Considering the travel," said Kwiatkowski of the "brutal" 6 1/2 hour bus trip to Algonquin College, "I was impressed with the [Knights] level of play."

The Knights started strong in the tournament handily defeating St. Lawrence College, but went on to lose three straight nailbiting matches against Algonquin, Loyalist and Royal Military College. The 1-3 weekend places the Knights at 4-4 on the season thus far.

Kwiatkowski is quick to point out his team is much better than their present record reflects.

"We have a full team," he says "They fight to the end. They refuse to give up."

The coach says his Knights came away from this weekend with much more than just one victory. The long trip together helped to form a more "cohesive" unit.

The Knights are benefiting from the return of several of last year's key players.

Tammy Forrester has returned as the team's main setter, bringing with her a devastating serve and great athletic and leadership abilities.

"Tammy is a great motivator. She's our catalyst," says Kwiatkowski.

Laurie Shipp has also returned, strengthening the offence with great placement and offspeed hitting.

Double threat Donnell Stayzer is back with a quick offensive attack and flawless defence.

"She's like a wall," says Kwiotkowski.

Set on besting last year's record of 11-6, and making a successful run of the OCAA Division 2 finals in late February, the coach knows his team must work "very hard", but feels confident about their abilities.

"I'm looking forward to it. If we put it together with intensity, it will happen. The girls realize this," he says.

The team travels to Hamilton tonight to play Mohawk College.

OHL star prepares for NHL draft

By FRANK SERRA
Staff Writer

Although only 17-years-old, Jason Bonsignore's hockey future looks to be more than just promising.

The Rochester, N.Y., native is projected to be an early first-round selection in the 1994 National Hockey League entry draft in June.

"It's really up to me how high I can go (in the draft). Depending on how well I play the rest of the season and how consistent I can be," Bonsignore said.

He says talk of the draft can sometimes be distracting. "Everyday there's something about the draft in the paper. Some people love you, some people hate you, but basically I try not to listen to what's said, but just worry about satisfying myself on the ice."

Bonsignore played his midget hockey in Rochester and was discovered while playing in the United States midget championship tournament in Buffalo in 1992. "The summer I started to get noticed different agents began calling me. Wayne Gretzky's agent, Michael Barnatt, called and so did other big names in hockey. It was pretty exciting." Bonsignore eventually signed with Pat Morris and Don Meehan, two of the bigger agents in the game.

Jason Bonsignore, 17, was the key player in a 10-player deal between the Newmarket Royals and the Niagara Falls Thunder.

Photo by Frank Serra

Bonsignore, now with the Niagara Falls Thunder, is one of the Ontario Hockey League's marquee players. He was traded to Niagara Falls on Nov.10 in a 10-player deal with the Newmarket Royals. One of the largest deals in OHL history.

Playing in Newmarket wasn't easy for the six-foot four-inch, 212 pound centreman. Bonsignore says the team played to their capability and couldn't do much more. He registered 24 points in 17 games with the last place club.

He believes the move to Niagara Falls will help his play and improve his chances of becoming a higher draft pick come June.

"There's a lot of good OHL players here (in Niagara Falls) with guys like Brandon Convery, Ethan Moreau and Bogdan Savenko. With more talent around me now, It'll make things a little easier and hopefully my own play will pick up."

Second annual tennis match raises $61,637 for CAVEAT

By GREGORY KELLY
Staff Writer

Canadian tennis star Chris Pridham has served an ace against violence.

The second annual Chris Pridham Invitational tennis match raised $61,637 for Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating its Termination (CAVEAT). The event was held at the Cedar Springs Athletic and Racquet Club in Burlington on Saturday Nov. 27.

CAVEAT was formed by Priscilla DeVilliers after her 19-year-old daughter Nina was abducted from Cedar Springs while jogging in 1991. Her eventual murder inspired many people to join CAVEAT to pressure the government to improve legislation against violence.

Pridham got involved last year after wanting to contribute more than just his signature to the CAVEAT petition.

"I'm tired of seeing people having to escort their loved ones to cars and having to watch our children all the time. We have an opportunity to get our justice system back in order, " said Pridham.

Priscilla DeVilliers was "overwhelmed" by the support given to the event and said Pridham is the first male role model in Canada to speak out against violence.

The evening was highlighted by two exhibition matches. A doubles event featured former U.S. Davis Cup team member Vitas Gerulatis teamed up with one of the Cedar Springs tennis pros to play against Australia's Roy Emerson and one of Cedar Springs other pros.

The feature match saw Pridham square off against Welland's own Brian Gyetko. Gyetko won the spirited match 6-4, 6-4. Gyetko said he got involved because "there's more to the game than money and sometimes you have to have your priorities straight."

The evening also featured a live auction. A few of the items sold included: Doug Gilmour's Maple Leaf game sweater - $1300, Pete Sampras' U.S. Open match shirt autographed and framed - $800, Molson Indy VIP package - $550.

Recent restaurant opening 'dream come true'

By DONNA DOLYNSKY
Staff Writer

At least 30 types of doughnuts, 10 varieties of fruit juice, several flavors of yogurt, salads galore, pies, cakes, fruit cups, chili and three kinds of low-fat muffins are some of the goodies at Jolanta and Derek Drubkowski's "dream come true" establishment.

The Drubkowski's, who owned and operated a small restaurant in Poland, courageously immigrated to Canada in 1991 with a desire to put their knowledge and experience to the test.

"The first contact with the English language was when we arrived in Canada three years ago," said Jolanta. Determined to learn the language, Jolanta, Derek and their three daughters moved into their new home in an English-speaking neighborhood. They read newspapers,"day and night", said Jolanta, and used a Polish/English dictionary to aid breaking the barrier of communication.

The couple were soon enrolled in the English as Second Language program at Niagara College.

The Drubkowskis sought guidance from counsellors to help establish a practical business plan, one step toward the final goal.

The Community Enterprise program, offered through Niagara College was the ideal avenue. With the support of jobsOntario which funds the Community Enterprise program, Jolanta and Derek were able to employ their hospitality skills about five months ago when they opened the door to their new business, J and D Donuts Ltd. located on Geneva at Carleton Street in St. Catharines.

'Because we work hard at what we're doing, things will work out good,' Yolanta Drubkowski

"The program was very helpful," said Jolanta, "We worked with good people and that makes a difference."

The pale burgundy and white decor radiates a warm, clean, comfortable atmosphere. An array of balloons lined the serving counter and a huge hand-painted sign hung up over the doorway to the kitchen said, "Happy Customer Day — Have One On Us!" offering free doughnut rounds (similar to Timbits) to customers to enjoy with their beverage.

J and D Donuts Ltd. has created jobs for six part-time and two full-time employees as well as plenty of work for the owners.

An 18-hour business day, seven days a week, is not uncommon for these new entrepreneurs. Hard work and determination are key elements the Drubkowskis naturally inherit.

On Sept. 19 the couple opened their second J and D Donuts Ltd. on St. Paul Street in St. Catharines.

"Because we work hard at what we're doing, things will work out good," said Jolanta, continuing to help her staff clean up in preparation for the next day. She looked up with a radiant smile and said, "If I have true honor for my business, I can't lose —I can't!"

Knights continue their struggle

By LEANN MCHUTCHION
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Knights men's basketball team was defeated by the Sheridan Bruins Nov. 26 in OCAA action.

After three minutes of the first half in Friday night's game at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont., the Bruins led the Knights by a score of 10-0.

The Knights battled to fight off the menacing Bruins. Just over three minutes into the game along came John Nicholson for the Niagara visitors to score the first two points for the Knights.

The rest of the first half saw the Knights struggling to keep up with the Sheridan team. The Bruins have been the number one ranked team in the Ontario College Athletic Association three years running.

By half-time the Bruins had more than double the points of the Knights leading 63-31.

The second half of the game saw the Knights' defense struggling to stop the Bruins' Chris Watson from scoring more three pointers.

During the second half, Paul Grummett, one of Niagara's key players, returned to the court after being benched with an ankle injury during the first-half of the game.

The final score was 97-65 in favor of the home team from Sheridan.

The Knights have been having considerable trouble lately, losing two of their last three away games and an exhibition game in Rochester, N.Y. over the past two weeks.

Niagara will be playing its first home game tonight at 7 p.m. against Lambton College in the gym at the Welland campus. This is the Knights first regular season home game this season.

Docs make a statement

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

These boots are made for walking. They're also handy for stomping, moshing, or just plain loitering.

Doc Martens boots, or 'Docs' as they are commonly known, have been available to the public since April 1, 1960 when the first pair rolled off the assembly line in Wollaston, Northamptonshire in Northern England. Footwear has never been the same.

From skinheads to accountants, Docs have become not just simple footwear but a cultural statement. They can convey peaceful intentions, anti-police sentiments, racial hatred, or simple comfort, depending on the style and philosophy of the wearer.

The original idea for the boots came about in 1945, in a small town near Munich, Germany when Dr. Maertens found himself hobbling after a skiing mishap in the Bavarian Alps. The young doctor fashioned himself a pair of air-cushioned shoes to make walking somewhat more bearable. Seeing the ingenious shoes, a friend and former classmate, Dr. Funck, encouraged Maertens to devolop and market the shoes. By 1959, the shoes were staple footwear in Germany, and the two entrepreneurial doctors decided to branch out. And branch out they did. Today you can find Docs being sported in almost any country on the planet.

There is an abundance of styles and colors to choose from in both boots and shoes, and the prices may vary from $80 to $150. The common denominator is that they are all durable and comfortable.

Depending on your mindset, there is a pair of Docs out there suited to you. They are available in almost any leather shop or shoe store and are guaranteed to last. So whether you consider yourself on top of the latest trends or not try a pair on. Doctor's orders.

Traditional Christmas Dinner

Wed. Dec. 8, 1993

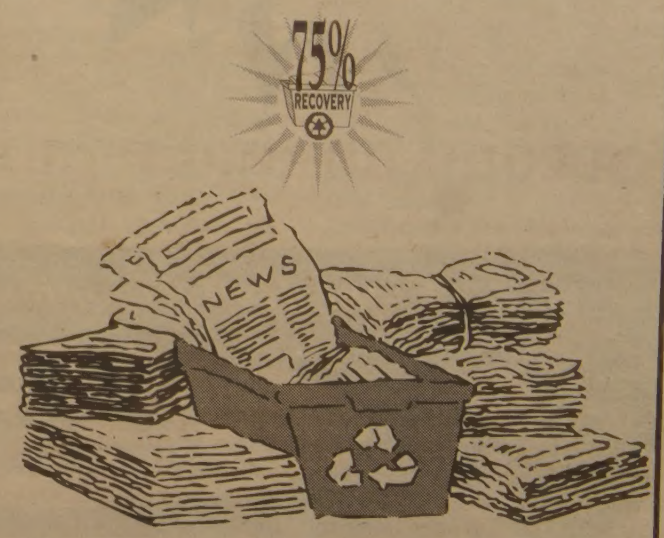
Main Cafeteria $3.75 Black Walnut

service 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

TAKE A BOW

Because of you, newspaper and flyer insert recovery in households with Blue Box service is an incredible 75%. Because of you, those newspapers – 250,000 tonnes of them – didn't end up in landfill. How much money did that save Ontario municipalities last year? Millions of dollars. Add that to the more than $6 million revenue generated from the sale of a quarter of a million tonnes of old newspapers, and the cost of collecting newspapers through the Blue Box is more than covered. Surprised? Well, now that you know, take a bow.

Recycling newspapers and flyer inserts is a real Ontario success story. Thanks to you.



The Newspaper Publishers of Ontario

Single Servings home cooked and hassle free

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

Tuna fish and Kraft Dinner connoisseurs your prayers have been answered.

Students never seem to have the time or the patience to cook a well-balanced meal so instead resort to canned or boxed alternatives.

Single Serving was created to serve the growing number of people who live independently and want nutritious meals, but don't want to cook.

Entrepreneur Jill Vance, who is single, is the inspiration behind Bon Appetit to Go catering, which offers this hassle-free dining option.

Vance, a 1988 graduate of the Chef Apprentice program at Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls, started this service in July 1993.

"My mother is a regular customer and my biggest critic," said Vance, who was already packaging food for family and friends before expanding her clientele.

Operating out of a small but orderly kitchen in her Chippawa home, Single Serving caters to about 24 regular customers, mostly bachelors, she said.

Single Serving offers a variety of everchanging meal items. "My specialty is good cooking," said Vance.

Each week the menu consists of a selection of savory soups, featured entrees, fresh salads and home-baked desserts. All of these foods are prepared using fresh products and herbs, many of which are homegrown.

At 39, Vance is a veteran of the food industry. She worked her way up from washing dishes at the Backstreet Cafe in Meaford (on Georgian Bay) to working at such prominent restaurants as Reese's in Niagara Falls and running several other restaurants in the area.

"I have considered travelling my biggest education," said Vance, who worked as a chief cook on large lake boats after graduating from the Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

'My specialty is good cooking.'

- Jill Vance

Vance travelled the Great Lakes and, when working for a deep sea company, travelled from Cape Breton to the Bahamas.

She shared her knowledge and experience while teaching a marine cooking course at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre from January to April of 1991.

Jill Vance is the inspiration behind the Single Serving meal option. Vance is a graduate of the Chef Apprentice program at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

Photo by Diana Berardi

Niagara College is a familiar setting for Vance who has completed everything from the secretarial and photography programs to special-interest courses in French and torts and strudels.

Vance is enrolled in the Chef de Cuisine Certification program at the centre. This degree is the highest qualification a chef can achieve.

Students and customers can telephone or fax their orders on a weekly basis with orders required each Thursday for delivery the following Monday.

Customers have a choice of two menu order options consisting of either four or five soup, entree, salad and dessert selections. Prices differ from $35 for a four-selection order to $45 for five selections.

"All the customer has to do is re-heat the food," said Vance. The soups and entrees are cooked and delivered frozen with simple stove top or microwave instructions.

Orders are delivered anywhere in the Niagara Region free of charge or retail packages can be purchased at Quality Bakery in Port Colborne.

Pubs to be held at Playpen

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Niagara College pub nights have a new home.

Every Wednesday evening pubs will be held at Eastside Playpen, 300 Lincoln St. in the Lincoln Plaza, Welland. Smart Alex Bar and Grille and Bar, just off St. David's Road in St. Catharines, hosted college nights prior to Playpen's offer to sponsor the weekly event. The change went into effect two weeks ago.

Student Administrative Council vice-president Jeremy Lowe cited poor attendance and student requests for pubs closer to the Welland campus for the change in venue.

Special events have been scheduled to help students end first semester on a positive note:

Dec. 8 — Mexican Night

Dec. 15 — Christmas Bash

Dec. 22 — Guess Who's Coming to Town?

Dec. 29 — New Year Warm-up Bash

Rack 'N' Roll Billiards

23 TABLES SNOOKER & EIGHT BALL

Niagara College Students 20% OFF with I.D. Card

VIDEO GAMES

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Eight Ball Handicap Tournaments

Every Thursday
Rack 'N' Roll adds
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Rack 'N' Roll Billiards
1/2 Price off billiards anytime any day
545 Niagara Street
Welland, Ontario
732-6446

Say 'cheese' for proposed student card

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

If you don't like posing for pictures, you may have to grin and bare it.

Niagara College's Student Photo I.D. Committee is looking into the feasabilty of redesigning current text-based identification cards to include a student photo.

Beth Weldon, committee chair and director of Management Information Services, said the committee first met in mid-October to discuss possible uses for identification cards and educate itself on current technologies.

About 500 students in health sciences at Niagara require photo identification for security purposes during placement, she said.

'...identification cards could be used for photocopying, library sign-outs, and identification for campus walk security.'

The commitee is also looking into making changes for continuing-education students. Their current identification cards are made from heavy paper perforated into three sections consisting of an admittance pass, an income tax receipt and student information.

Weldon said the committee was looking into the possibility that identification cards could be used for photocopying, library sign-outs and identification for campus car-walk security.

As technology increases, so does cost. Cards may also include bar codes to retain information. "Smart Cards" hold information by using a magnetic stripe similar to credit cards. Weldon said the newest card on the market contains a memory chip which has the capability to store a person's entire life history, including transcripts and health records.

When it comes time to make a decision, Weldon said the committee should ask itself, "Is our need enough to spend money for the Cadillac or just enough for the Volkswagon?

"Any solution is going to cost money and we want the most cost-effective method for our needs," said Weldon, who added there will be no increase in cost for students if changes are made. "There's no way we're going to ask students to pay more for a Gold Card than a paper one."

Weldon said the 11-member committee should have a recommendation based on the feasability study by early January.

"It's going to be a dollar decision, basically, at the end of it."

Christmas is blooming

First-year Horticulture Technician program students Danna Hawke, 20 and Rob Verloop, 21, are setting up for their annual poinsettia sale, Dec. 2, at Hennepin Hall at the Welland campus.
Photo by Donna Dolynsky

Parking fees 'low'

By STUART MCDONALD
By Staff Writer

Sandra Fox, manager of ancillary operations at the college and a member of the parking committee, said parking fees are still "low" across the system despite this year's hike in parking fees.

Students at Niagara pay $91 while faculty pay $139.10 for yearly parking passes. Students paid $70 a year for parking last year.

Monique Armstrong, secretary of ancillary services at the college, said she called six colleges in Ontario to compare parking prices and Niagara students pay less than all six.

Conestoga College in Kitchener charges $113 a year for general parking and $152 a year for designated parking. Fanshawe College in London charges $138 a year for general parking, $241 for reserved lot parking and $345 a year for assigned reserved lot parking.

Mohawk College in Hamilton charges $134 a year for general parking and $236 a year for preferred parking. Sheridan College in Oakville charges $161 a year for student parking.

Armstrong also contacted Seneca and Humber Colleges in the Toronto area for parking prices. Seneca charges $3.25 a day for student parking, while Humber charges $175.20 a year for general parking and $262 a year for preferred parking.

Fox's report at a previous college council meeting projected a revenue of about $303,000 for the sale of student and staff parking permits in the 1993-94 school year. Expenditures from the 1992-93 school year amount to $275,000 including PST.

If the projected revenue of $303,000 is met, and other expenditures such as heavy snowfalls are avoided, then the parking committee would have a $28,000 surplus which would go to college operations, said Fox in a later interview. Fox added the new Niagara College signs at the front corners of the college were paid for by the parking committee but were not included in budget expenditures.

Window display has global feel

By ALAN GILDAY
Staff Writer

You may have noticed an interesting display if you happened to pass by the retail window in the Tecumseh foyer.

A group of second-year marketing students decided to take on an international theme for their window display. The theme of the display is "Support for Export," and depicts a Canadian export commissioner welcoming an Arab visitor into the office to negotiate an export agreement.

"I figure that Canada can't compete if we don't approach the international market," said Vick Pierre, a marketing student, in explaining the choice of window theme.

Signs on the display point out that Canada should continue the trend toward global trade that was set out by Sir John A. MacDonald in 1888. Canada has a great reputation all over the world, but our population isn't large enough to be alble to consume all of our products. We should be approaching various foreign markets in order to negotiate higher international export sales and trading volumes.

Vince Audibert, a professor in the business program, said the activity has two main purposes. "It gives the student an opportunity to get involved in the retail function, and it allows them to work together as a team.

"Students have to approach firms and ask them for merchandise for the display. Most students only call two or three merchants, these students called 15 merchants," said Audibert.

He pointed out the project makes up 30 per cent of each student's mark for the course. "I like the activity because it gives students the opportunity to go out and meet the business people in the community and to practice the principles of balance and proportion that they are learning. Students are often surprised to see the results of their work. They are able to express their creativity and their inner self," said Audibert.

In total, the project took about three months to complete, including 35 hours setting up the actual display.

Pierre and fellow group members Jim Broderick, Mike Naudmann and G. Fowler wish to thank Gary Waters of the Pen Centre, the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia Embassy in Toronto, Kirkwood's and Charlie in the Seaway Mall, and the other merchants who helped make the display a success.

Winning designer

By CHRIS RUSSO
Staff Writer

We have a winner!

Lisa Veenstra, a 21-year-old second-year Creative and Visual Arts/Design program student, was the winning designer of the official Niagara College Christmas card.

The design was produced as a class assignment using repeat geometric shapes, a Christmas theme and a maximum of two colors. Veenstra, who used a blue background as the only color in her design, decided on snowflakes and trees as the main subjects in her design. "I chose not to use the traditional red and green," said Veenstra, "for something a little different." A total of about 30 hours were spent on designing the card.

Her classes range from a class in three dimensional art (the class the card was born in) to silk-screening to computers. "I don't have a favorite," she said, "I like them all. Every one is a challenge in a different way."

Veenstra, a graduate of Niagara Christian College in Fort Erie, decided to attend Niagara College and stay close to home. "I'm glad I did end up here," she said, " it hems the basics." Veenstra plans to continue her education in the art field because "I've wanted to all my life and I've always been good at it."

The life-long Sherkston resident and eldest of nine children devotes most of her time to her art work. "School keeps me busy," she said. Veenstra also finds time to help her parents with their crop farm growing wheat, soya beans and corn.

Kiss the Flame

Lift your spirit

By Heather D. Hodgson
Law and Security Administration Program
Special to Niagara News

For some, the festive season is a time of joyous celebration. For many religions it is a time of renewal of the spirit. Many of us see it as a time to renew friendships and strengthen family ties. Our society revels in the magic and the caring spirit that is present at this time of year. Business people delight in increased sales. Employees look forward to traditional bonuses and staff get-togethers. Students look forward to the needed rest after a hectic fall term.

The time that seems so full of life and wonder is also the time of year that sees a dramatic increase in spousal/child abuse, substance abuse and suicide.

It seems that as Santa's elves dance in the dreams of children, some of us have great difficulty coming to terms with our life situation. Unemployment, job frustration, lack of funds and many other factors contribute to turning the "Christmas Spirit" into a "Haunting Nightmare".

Sometimes a simple gesture of support or friendship can turn a would be tragedy into a happy ending. The Salvation Army and other community organizations strive to keep Christmas a warm and friendly time. Food and toy drives allow each of us the magic of giving.

But, there are some who will spend the holiday season alone, depressed and lonely. Marriage break-ups, lack of funds to travel to join friends and family, or sometimes just the fear of rejection can make the festive season extremely painful.

Being alone doesn't have to mean being lonely. Getting involved in community activities can take the sting away. Helping deliver Christmas bundles, serving meals at the mission, or visiting nursing homes can give a lift to the spirit.

If social events don't appeal to you, plan activities that you enjoy. Give yourself a treat — rent a movie, order take-out food from your favorite restaurant, or whatever your budget will afford. If you can't afford to travel or phone those you care about, write or tape a special message telling them what you would enjoy if you were together.

For those who mourn the loss of loved ones, remembering special times and funny incidents will help to heal the scars. Writing them down will leave a permanent record to go back to at times when you can only recall the sadness.

For others it isn't the loneliness. It is a lack of money to buy the most treasured gifts. In reality, those highly valued items turn up on shelves, in closets, etc. Even small children can understand the word "no". If it isn't in the budget, rework the list. Sometimes the best gift is a small token made by you for someone special. Enlist the help of youngsters to find affordable gifts for family and friends. Time spent making crafts with children has an added gift. In years to come, the children will treasure the time shared more than anything else.

As the festive season approaches let's take stock of all the positive things in our lives and try to share the warmth with those around us.

To all I wish a safe and happy holiday season and success in the coming year.

Wanted: School spirit

By ELIZABETH BROWN
Staff Writer

School Spirit.

An interesting concept that Niagara College lacks.

We have seen time and time again that pub nights are not successful nor are other planned events.

Why?

Is it because it's a community college and many people don't want to drive back into Welland at night after a long day of school?

Or is it they just don't care?

They have enough friends and do not need any more.

I see so many people that are either lonely or at least look that way.

If we had school events that students could participate in either during the day or at night maybe these lonely few wouldn't be so lonely.

Perhaps having first-year students buddy up with second and third- year students in September, to show them around and meet people the transition from leaving high school, their families and friends would not be so difficult.

When I sit in the pub, I see students sitting alone, knowing no one.

Years from now will these few look back at their days at Niagara College with happy or sad thoughts?

Last Wednesday night, Niagara College held a pub night at the East End Play Pen in Welland. There was controversy over a wet T-shirt contest which would be held that night. For lack of interest the contest was cancelled.

I overheard students voicing their disapproval of such events.

Students complain about SAC and paying for a student centre that they do not even frequent.

After Hours opened three years ago.

Donna Flutur, the manager of After Hours, sees a problem with the school spirit at the college, "I have seen it year after year."

"Students come to school and they just want to do their time and go back into their own environment. Back to their families and part-time jobs."

In the past years the pub tried staying open on Tuesdays and Wednesday nights until 1 a.m., but paying for staff and to keep the building open, it wasn't financially profitable for After Hours.

"It's a student centre first and foremost with a bar as an extra perk," said Flutur.

Prior to being After Hours manager, she was Student Council manager for 10 years.

With controversy over the wet T-shirt contest, Flutur stated: "We used to have Best Buns and Best Legs contests. These kids have seen it all. I don't see a problem with it."

These events were held in the cafeteria prior to the pub opening.

"The budget that I receive from the student activity fee is spent on the students. Twice a month I try to bring entertainment into the pub at no charge to the students," said Flutur.

"I want the students to know that I'm trying to give something back for what they have put in," she said.

Fluter works five days a week from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and when any special events are being held at the student centre, in the evenings or on weekends.

So perhaps it's just the students who lack school spirit.

Donate a toy

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

A toy drive is underway until Dec. 17 at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls.

"We're asking for a new toy that hasn't been wrapped," said Yvonne Halliday, president of the Niagara College junior branch of the Canadian Food Service Executives Association (C.F.S.E.A.).

The C.F.S.E.A., a student organization focussing mainly on educating its members in the food service industry, is holding this event to help support the Salvation Army's Santa Anonymous program in Niagara Falls.

"We're looking at helping over 2, 000 families," said Michelle Tanner, family services worker at the Salvation Army.

The number of children per family varies, but the aim is to provide each child with one or two toys and stocking stuffers, said Tanner.

Drop off centres are located throughout Niagara Falls for anyone interested in donating a toy. Bins can be found at the two area McDonald's, Meadows pharmacies, CJRN and the Salvation Army Thrift Store or church.

Families can register for the Santa's Anonymous program from Dec. 1 to Dec. 10, between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., on Tuesday to Friday at the Salvation Army on Lundy's Lane.

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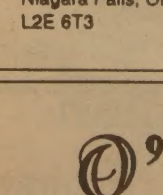

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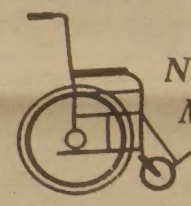

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ESL students describe Christmas

By LORI DUCK
Staff Writer

Christmas doesn't mean as much in other countries as it does in Canada.

The students of the English as a Second Language program (ESL) here at the college celebrate Christmas differently at home. There are 39 students in the program.

In Taiwan only the Christians celebrate Christmas, said Julie Chou of Taiwan. There is a national holiday on the same day, and most people only take part in that. There are not many Christians in Taiwan and only the big hotels decorate for the holidays. Chou said this day is a "party for young people, you must dance."

Junko Onishi of Japan says Christmas is the same in Japan as it is in Taiwan. Christmas is a regular working day. The big hotels have Christmas parties and there is a Christmas cake. Their cake is different then ours, theirs is white with a lot of decorations, said Onishi. Some people do give presents, she said.

"Christmas is celebrated with friends not family," said Nobuko Mori of Japan. It is a romantic day, the same as Valentine's Day, she said. Miho Nakajima, also of Japan, said she has a Christmas party with her family on Dec. 24. On Dec. 25 she has a big party with her friends. Christmas is mostly for young people she added.

Abdel Yagubi said in Libya Christmas doesn't mean as much as it does in Canada. "It is a regular working day," he said.

In Korea they don't work for two days, said Jin Man Cho. Christians go to church. "This is a holiday for young people, not for families," said Cho. People drink and sing with a Karoke machine. "It is a party time and it is also romantic. Some people exchange presents, and decorate a little bit," he said

Most of the international students are spending Christmas with a Canadian family. "I don't know how to celebrate Christmas," said Yagubi who is not celebrating Christmas with a Canadian family.

Co-op programs a success

By TINA YOUNG
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Co-op programs are doing "phenomenally well" considering the weak Ontario economy.

That is the praise provided by Leo Tiberi, the college's new Co-op manager.

Tiberi said the programs are doing "phenomenally well given what the unemployment situation is for students out there."

Statistics Canada reports the unemployment rate for students was 19 per cent internationally, added Tiberi.

In the summer months from May to August, 87 per cent of all Co-op students were placed. Out of 406 students, 349 were actively working.

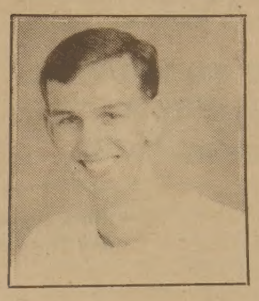
"It would be great if we could get a job for everybody," said Tiberi. "We have to convince businesses that Co-op is the way to go."

"The co-op staff is getting more involved with group presentations to businesses and manufacturing networks. It's hard to sell, they have no money," Tiberi said.

"You wouldn't believe the competition for jobs;" he said. High schools have Co-ops where the student basically gives out free labor to businesses.

"It's a difficult situation out there with the economy. I'm pretty proud of our numbers."

Advice for the poetically challenged



By CHARLIE KOSCAK
Staff Writer

Let me tell you about my one disability.

After my favorite song on the radio ended, the DJ came on and explained the meaning of the song. Ever since I got my hands on the lyric sheet, I thought that *Learning to Fly* by Pink Floyd was about a guy who enjoyed flying planes.

Much to my surprise, the DJ said it was about a man who has never flown a plane before, and had to land the plane with instructions from the control tower. I guess the pilot died or something.

You see, I'm poetically challenged. When confronted by a poem, I can physically read it, but if I have to delve into its meaning, I'm lost.

I thought *She's Got The Jack*, by AC/DC was about a card game. In truth it was about a woman with a veneral disease. It didn't even enter my mind.

I even saw the video to Pearl Jam's *Jeremy* and it didn't click that Jeremy committed suicide in front of his classroom until I read about Pearl Jam in Time magazine.

In high school, I had to present my analysis of a poem about a politician. I told the class the poet was admiring the politician's charisma. The presentation went pretty well, until the end when my English teacher told me the poet was actually sarcastic and loathed the actions of the politician.

I should start a support group for people with my condition. Our motto would be . . . well, we wouldn't have a motto because we can't write poems.

But for now, I guess I'll have to survive. I just hope I don't have to fly any planes in the near future.

Signcrafters make donation

By ROBIN GREEN
Staff Writer

Niagara College was presented a $10,000 donation on behalf of the Southern Ontario Signcrafters Nov. 19.

The donation was presented to Foster Zanutto in return for the use of the Black Walnut Building last August, at which the Annual International Letterhead Meet and Trade Show was held. Before the show, Southern Ontario Signcrafters promised a donation to the college, which they estimated would be approximately $1,500. However, the show drew more people then expected, making it possible to donate $10,000.

Elaine Wallis, of Signature Signs in Niagara Falls, planned and coordinated the show which was held Aug. 20, 21 and 22. It was attended by a group of sign makers, who call themselves the Letterhead Movement, who have gotten together annually for approximately the last 20 years to share information and education on the art of sign making. Wallis said sign making is "almost a lost art, and we're trying to keep the skills alive through the Letterhead meetings." This year, the meeting got almost twice the turnout than expected.

The show consisted of 21 seminars, woodcarving, demonstrations, billboard illustration, layout and design and airbrush techniques. There were also sign making competitions, one of which was to design a sign for After Hours. Several of these signs were left behind by their designers, and were donated to the college as well.

Along with donating the Black Walnut Building , the college also gave the Letterhead Movement the use of After Hours, as well as supplying the security.

The Southern Ontario Signcrafters specified that $5,000 of the donation was to go to the Visual Creative Arts-Design program, $3,000 is to go Continuing Education, and $2,000 is to go to the Niagara College Foundation.

The Niagara Knight, Kristen Sorensen, Student Administrative Council president, and Santa stopped cars in the college parking lot Nov. 29 to help promote the college food drive.

Photo by Angela Kotlarz

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A 'real' Christmas alternative

By TODD L'ECUYER
Staff Writer

Here is the real Christmas alternative, my little gift list for those who like heavier things than the usual festive tunes.

I present you with a list of six of the best music releases of 1993, the other four are from 1992. All of the below mentioned are pushing the boundries of heavy music; this is not a list for main- stream music lovers. If something sounds interesting to you, chances are your local record store has it in stock or can easily order it. There is nothing on the list that isn't on a major label.

Reader take warning, this stuff makes Soundgarden sound like the Partridge Family.

Type O Negative — Bloody Kisses

Six-foot-six inch tall monolith, Peter Steele is behind one of this year's most original releases. Bloody Kisses pushes beyond the usual patterns of heavy music, its unpredictable flow creates an atmosphere that is moody and at times cynical.

This is a far cry from what Steele was doing during the 1980s as a member of hard-core bashers, Carnivore. Steele shows no prejudice, he overlooks past labels of being a racist and a sexist, assurring you that he simply hates everybody.

Bloody Kisses is different from past Type O Negative ventures, it moves in a strange way, it's truly original.

White Zombie — La Sexorcisto, Devil Music Vol. 1

Zombie's 1992 release is a true classic, its hard tight grooves focus on some of the coolest guitar riffs ever recorded.

La Sexorcisto is finally getting the recognition it deserves, it's even getting radio play! Rob Zombie, the tatooed, dread monster fronting this unit has certainly come a long way from past garage quality recordings with his band. Zombie have become a tight metal unit, the addition of guitar player, simply named J has done a lot for the band's sound.

White Zombie's popularity is growing, with a release like La Sexorcisto it's obvious why.

Biohazard — Urban Discipline

This is killer hard-core.

Heavy powerful guitar riffs back up the sing along chants of one of New York's finest. Urban Discipline excites in the Biohazard tradition. A recent major record deal is sure to expose the band to a larger market.

Urban Discipline has the same grind as past Biohazard recordings. This is street smart hard core, it's an audio boot to the head.

Cathedral — The Ethereal Mirror

Lee Dorrian's demonic vocal style help mold the gothic tones that make up the sound of Cathedral.

The Ethereal Mirror is to date one of the heaviest, slow driving CDs I've ever heard. Cathedral have a Sabbath like drive that is quickly gaining them recognition as one of the most promising band's of the 90s.

If you like The Ethereal Mirror, I suggest you pick up the band's E.P. Soul Sacrifice. If that's still not enough for you, check out Forest of Equilbrium-be warned this is super slow and beyond heavy.

Cathedral are deadly, they are true masters.

Melvins — Houdini

The Melvins are heavy in an unbound ugly way, just look at a band picture.

Houdini is a mix of slow uncontrolled feedback, raunchy vocals and lots of drums. These Kiss worshipping boys have put out an impressive major label debut. Check out the band's cover of Kiss's Going Blind.

The Melvins are sure to be big, let's not hope for another Nirvana syndrome.

Trouble — Manic Frustration

Trouble is probably the world's most underated band, they're also one of the coolest, rocking, butt-kicking guitar bands I've ever heard.

1992s Manic Frustration is full of some of the tastiest guitar riffs on record. Unlike the gloom and doom approach to heavy music that a lot of bands take, Trouble choose to focus on a more up beat sound.

This is one of those recordings that is sure to put the listener in a lively mood, this just rocks beyond description.

Rage Against the Machine — self titled

If you take certain elements of rap, hard core and hard rock you'd end up with a sound like Rage Against the Machine.

Rage have put out one of the most original debuts I've heard in ages. The songs are powerful and well written. The lyrical focus is clear, it attacks the system with an angry passion.

This debut should not be ignored.

Judgment Night Soundtrack — various artists

This is worth buying for the Onyx-Biohazard title track alone.

The soundtrack mixes popular rock acts with rap acts. This isn't one of those albums that is great from start to finish but the heavier tunes make it worth the price of purchase Imagine a Slayer with Ice T, it's on here.

Helmut — Meantime

Simple riffs with tight pounding drum beats make Helmut's sound effective.

This is the no frills approach to aggressive power. This 1992 release still blows my head off every time I hear it.

Mind Funk — Dropped

The hypnotic thought altering sounds of Mind Funk run you through a series of different states.

Dropped is sometimes heavy, sometimes mellow. It's a very moody CD. This is another band that doesn't get the recognition they deserve.

I hope I've given you a few gift suggestions, if not for your own personal music collection maybe someone else's. Consider the gift of music for your sweet, god fearing grandmother, possibly White Zombie.The music on thi list is sure to keep you singing with good cheer well into the new year.

Celebrate with SAC

By GREG FURMINGER
Staff Writer

Time is running out for students planning to purchase tickets for Student Administrative Council's Christmas semi-formal.

The dinner and dance is next Friday, Dec. 10, at the Niagara Falls Golf Club. Only 200 tickets will be sold, and SAC president Kristen Sorensen said sales have picked up over the last few days. Tickets cost $25 a person or $45 a couple.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Meal includes prime rib of beef, rigatoni and meatballs, salad and vegetables. Dancing will commence two hours later. Jeremy Lowe, vice-president social, said door prizes will also be awarded.

Tickets and further information can be obtained at the SAC office located in After Hours.

Niagara 'outbids' other colleges

By MIKE MICHAUD
Staff Writer

The St. Catharines campus of Niagara College will be the site for a training program that is growing "by leaps and bounds," says Brian Moukperian, director, Technical Skills Training.

Niagara was successful in securing a contract with soap makers Procter and Gamble to better train packaging line operators. Niagara outbid Mohawk College and Humber College for the contract.

Two groups of workers will be trained over the course of the 10-week program, Moukperian said in a telephone interview. The first group, who started training Nov. 22, will be learning the mechanical side of how their machines operate. The second group begins in January, and will be learning how to spot problems in the company's high voltage power systems, he said.

Some apprenticeship training is sponsored by the government, but projects like the one with Procter and Gamble are paid for by the company.

Moukperian is head of the project, but he said Domenic Caruso, who is in charge of operations, is the "primary link" between the school and the company. The man responsible for actually writing the curriculum is Peter Rivendo. Rivendo is a millwright by trade and it's his job to convert what Procter and Gamble wants into class work, said Moukperian.

Moukperian says this type of training is a part of regular business for the Technical Skills department. Niagara College has a three-year contract with Niagara Pulp and Paper and is getting ready to sign a contract with General Motors.

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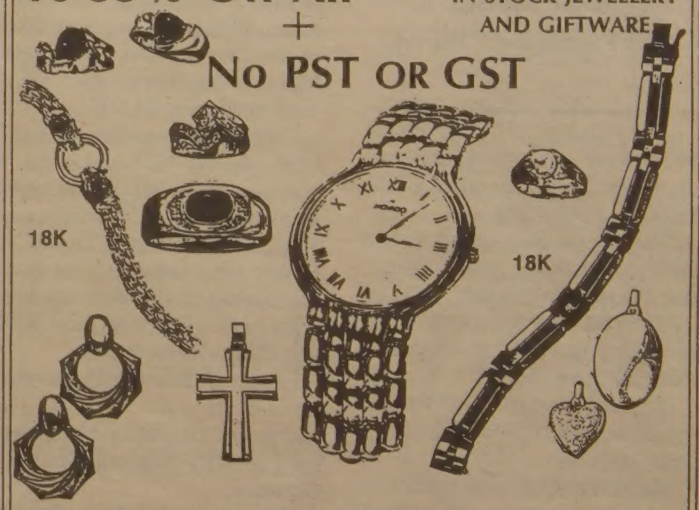

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Appreciative Puzzles

By MARY LEMIEUX
Staff Writer

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) at the Welland campus was given a special gift from Niagara College student Leon Lowry.

Lowry presented head librarian Trish Labonte with a glassed, gold-framed jigsaw puzzle on Oct. 8.

"They've been so good to me," Lowry said. "Making the puzzle and bringing it here has been a great joy to me!"

"The picture is very serene," Labonte said. "The sand, palm trees and sailboat on the ocean present a tranquil scene." She said the LRC staff will enjoy looking at the puzzle since it represents where many staff wish to be.

When working on the puzzle, Lowry encountered the minor setback of a missing puzzle piece. He traced the needed shape from the cardboard box lid. The shade of blue fit perfectly within the puzzle.

Leon Lowry displays the completed framed 1,000-piece puzzle he recently donated to Niagara College's Learning Resource Centre. Lowry has donated two other puzzles: one to After Hours manager Donna Flutur and the other to the LRC. This recent puzzle presented a challenge: the box held 999 pieces. Lowry improvised.

Photo by Mary Lemieux

After 4 1/2 months, the 1,000-piece puzzle was completed. This is the third puzzle Lowry has donated to Niagara College.

The Citadel, Lowry's second puzzle, is displayed in the library. It hangs on the upper level. The 500-piece oak-framed round puzzle was presented to the LRC on April 7, 1992.

Lowry enjoys fundraising and volunteer work

Lowry also gave Donna Flutur, the Student Centre manager, a puzzle to display in her office in the After Hours building.

"The puzzle is in-depth. It is a castle in medieval times," Flutur said. "If you look closely, you can see different objects from medieval times. I've had a lot of comments about it from students!"

The puzzle was given to Flutur in September 1991, the year After Hours opened.

"He gave me the puzzle for two reasons: because the centre opened and we were friends in the old SAC (Student Administrative Council) office in the Merritt Building," Flutur said.

Lowry, born in Simcoe on Nov. 4, 1942, was diagnosed with a mild case of cerebral palsy, a qualitative motor disorder caused from brain damage before or at birth. This affects muscles in his arms and legs. At five, Lowry was hospitalized two years with undulant fever, an illness caused by bacteria in unpasteurized milk. A Welland hospital admitted Lowry in December 1984. Diagnosed with double pneumonia, a bacterial inflammation of both lungs, he stayed in the hospital for six months. "It was because of the pneumonia that I use a walker today," Lowry said.

Despite the obstacles he faces, Lowry's outlook on life remains positive. To obtain a Grade 12 education was Lowry's desire. He began attending Niagara College in November 1988, enrolling in the Ontario Basic Skills program — a program designed to help students improve reading, writing, math and basic computer skills. He now studies Wordperfect 5.1 Level 2, attending class Tuesday nights at the Welland campus.

Lowry enjoys fundraising and volunteer work. In 1991 Lowry donated two 500-piece round puzzles to a fund-raiser sponsored by Tanguay Place, a Welland home for physically challenged people. The Picture Perfect Gallery in Seaway Mall in Welland donated two solid oak frames to compliment the puzzles. The $3,000 raised from raffle tickets sold for Lowry's puzzles helped purchase a wheelchair-accessible van. Lowry participated in the Tanguay Place fifth annual Marathon of Wheels on Sept. 19. He helped raise $4,000.

"I like to help as many people as I can," Lowry said. And he has, by volunteering for United Way, Kinsmen Club, Big Brothers, Kiwanis Club and the Lions Club. Lowry also sold Christmas tree ornaments at the Seaway Mall, often working 11 hours a day for the Big Sisters Association.

Lowry continues giving to others. He is starting a new, 1,500-piece puzzle for Hennepin Hall, a picture of Ravensburg Castle in Germany.

"I've made a lot of friends here," said Lowry.

"He is a friend," said Labonte. "We all have a special spot for him!"

A member from the Buffalo Club prepares a dish from the menu in the Hot Food Competition on Nov. 12 to Nov. 13 at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

Photo by Diana Berardi

Niagara hosts tasty competition

By DIANA BERARDI
Staff Writer

A team from the Royal York Hotel in Toronto had the golden ingredients.

The International Hot Food Competition was held on Nov. 12 and 13 at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls. Two teams from the United States and five from Canada were entered in the competition.

The gold medal was awarded to a team from the Royal York Hotel. The other winning teams included the Rumson Country Yacht Club of Rumson, N.J., winning the silver medal, and the Hotel Inter-Continental of Toronto, winning the bronze medal. Certificates of participation were presented to the Buffalo Club of Buffalo, N.Y., the Queen's Landing and Pillar and Post Inn, both from Niagara-on-the-Lake, and an independent team from Niagara Falls.

Teams met at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre at 5 p.m. on Nov. 12 to receive the menu and recipes. The menu consisted of salmon and scallop paupiette with goat cheese, shitake chicken soup, garden salad, honey and rosemary pork loin, gnocchi romaine, potpourri of vegetables, and poached gingered pear au gratin.

A copy of the judging criteria was also issued. Judging, which started at 4 p.m. on Nov. 13, was based on food presentation and taste, as well as kitchen maintenance, use of materials, technique, timing, attitude and composure, said Stanley West, chairman of the competition and co-ordinator of the culinary programs at the centre.

Judges included Norman Hart, a teacher at the American Institute of Culinary Arts in south Pennsylvania, Thomas Mcumber from South Carolina, Michael Stadlander from Toronto and David Gibson, an instructor at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, said Keith Longster, co-chairman of the competition.

"Everything went off without a hitch," said West, in thanking the staff and students for their ability to work together. Support staff included Donna Gemmell, responsible for the food requesitions for each team and the running and clean-up of the night's activities; Daryl Firby, responsible for the set up of lab-food orders and the provision of team meals and lunches; and Shelley Snure and Ernest Neukirchner, students of the level two cooking apprentice program, said Longster.

A reception was held in the Centre Mall at 6:30 p.m., beginning with welcoming remarks from David Davies, director at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, a brief introduction, acknowledgement of important guests and outline of the day's activities from the master of ceremonies and instructor at the college, Albert Cipryk.

In attendance were such guests as Margaret Harrington, MPP from Niagara Falls, Ann Dixon, executive manager of the Niagara Industrial Training Advisory Corporation (NITAC), Sarke Senoian, vice-chair of the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, and Norma Higgs, representative of the American Bridge Commission.

A total of 152 tickets were sold at $35 a person. The ticket price included dinner and wine. Cyprk, a recognized cellar master, selected the three wines served with specific courses of the meal.

Before each course Cyprk described the ingredients of the food being served and the quality of the wine. "Every plate looked different," he said. There were seven teams and the seating was arranged in tables of eight, which allowed each person to get a different plate.

Interspersed during dinner were speeches from the representatives of the Bridge Commission and NITAC, followed by the awards presentation after dinner.

"The teams were happy and the customers were delighted," said Longster in reference to the overall success of the competition.

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Mal Woodhouse: 'following the money'

By ADELE NAGY
Staff Writer

In the long-hair, flower-child days, Mal Woodhouse says he was "a bit of a rebel," who challenged authority. He says it still gets him in trouble sometimes.

Woodhouse, 46, of 19 Yates St., in Thorold, is Niagara College's security operations health and safety manager. He is also a graduate of the Labor Management Relations program at the college. He spoke to the first-year Journalism-Print program students on Nov. 24 about his time as a local and Niagara Region councillor.

Woodhouse, who left school at 16 because of a family illness, worked at a variety of jobs before becoming involved in local politics. He worked in a laundry, a number of paper mills, as an ambulance attendant, and in an automotive company. But it was his time as president of the Thorold volunteer fire department that launched him into the local political scene.

Woodhouse was asked to represent the volunteer firefighters at a Thorold city council meeting. He says he was insecure about attending the council meeting because he wasn't exposed to that kind of thing before, but he found that "they weren't any different than me." This realization and the fact that he "won the debate," prompted Woodhouse to run for Thorold city council in 1976. He lost by 150 votes. He says it was a "humbling experience." Woodhouse says he lost because he was "perceived as a trouble-maker." And "a trouble-maker I was," he says. He won in the 1978 election.

He says it wasn't an easy task to be there. "They didn't make it easy on me." Woodhouse says he had to seek out the answers on his own - he had to learn how the system works.

Woodhouse served on the finance committee - a job he says few people wanted. He was pleased though, because he says "if you know where the dollars go, you know what's happening, where it's happening, why it's happening. If you understand budgets and you understand movement of money within an organization, you also understand the organization."

After his three-year term on local council, Woodhouse ran for Niagara regional council, where he was again "following the money."

After six years, Woodhouse successfully ran to be one of two representatives from the area on the Niagara Regional Police Services Board. He was there during the Colter Inquiry, which was a judicial examination of alleged wrongdoing by members of the Niagara Regional Police department. He says it "was a very long three-year period in which you had to be very careful what you said." It was a task he found "to be very difficult." Ironically, Woodhouse says this time was also the most rewarding in his political life.

If all this wasn't enough, Woodhouse also was on the Board of Governors for the St. Catharines General Hospital. He says he was shocked that the media was not allowed to cover the board meetings and as a board governor, he was able to change that rule.

Woodhouse, a life-long Liberal, who has now been out of politics for a few years, was asked to run provincially. But he declined saying he would have "a great difficulty towing the party line."

Big Sisters hold craft show

By NOREEN BOND
Staff Writer

Helping to shape a girl's tomorrow.

The Big Sister's Association of Welland held its annual craft show on Nov. 18. The first-year Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) students were approached by the Big Sister's to spend some time making crafts with the little sisters as volunteers.

Doris Bayano, a first-year ERSN student, spoke about the benefits of being a volunteer. Bayano said everyone wants to do something special for Christmas. "It's a good way to give our time and have fun," she said. The funding for the craft show comes from the Big Sister's Association.

The ERSN students earn one credit for their volunteer work. "We have to serve three five-hour volunteer placements,"said Bayano, adding she enjoys being able to serve the community as a volunteer.

Linda Anderson, of the Big Sister's Association, said there is a need for big sisters. There are about 50 little sisters who are not matched up with big sisters.

Darlene Anger, of the Big Sister's Association, said big sisters can build lifelong friendships with their little sisters. She said little sisters often come from families with one parent or both parents. Big sisters offer guidance and friendship to their little sisters. "Big sisters help a young girl in need," said Anger.

For more information on how you can become a big sister, call the Big Sister's Association of Welland at 732-2341.

Correction

In a recent story on the Young Entrepreneur Society, the meeting room was incorrect. The group meets each Wednesday at 12:30 p.m., in S309, and not ME 309, as was reported.

Closet bingo addicts: Stimpy, Gimpy and Limpy.
Photo by Craig Litchfield

Stimpy plays bingo

By CRAIG LITCHFIELD
Staff Writer

The athlete is crouched and in position. He waits tensely for his call to action. After what seems an eternity, the call comes. In a blur of motion his hands rocket from his sides while his sinewy, spring loaded legs propel him skyward. "Bingo!" he screams to the bewilderment of the blue-haired legions that surround him.

The sport is bingo and the athlete's name is Stimpy. Of course Stimpy is not his real name, he prefers to remain anonymous. "Would you want everybody to know you play bingo?" he says. "They'd probably call me bingo-boy or something like that. "

Stimpy is a rarity among bingo addicts in that he is a 22-year-old male. "There's not a lot of guys my age come out [to play bingo.]"

It started when his mother took him to the bingo hall at the impressionable age of 15. "I won thirty bucks." He has been attending religiously ever since.

Although it has been pegged as an older women's game, Stimpy feels bingo has taken a "bad rap." He said the game is suited for "anyone who craves excitement. It's a blast man."

Stimpy has never won the big jackpot, which can exceed $2,000 at times, but he has won up to $200 in a night.

"I'm going to win the jackpot soon," he said."I'm feeling lucky."

Indeed luck is a factor in becoming a successful bingoer, but there are many other facets to consider. Keen senses are a necessity, as are quick hands. When a player can have up to 10 bingo cards playing at one time all these assets must come together in one fluid motion. When this happens it is what Stimpy calls "zoning". When Stimpy is "zoned" there is no stopping him.

Passing Stimpy on the street, he may appear to be your average, yet somewhat lumpy, young man. A closer look into his fiery eyes will reveal another side to his seemingly normal facade. You will catch a glimpse of the beast within. The bingo beast.

With smoke in mouth, and bingo dabber in hand this beast is zoned, and Gramma if you see him coming, step aside.

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STEVE HARRIS
President

"Wishing everybody a great holiday. Can't wait for '94 for some more good times and great memories!"

CHRIS SHAH
Social Convener

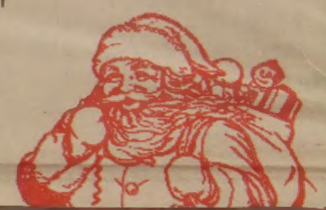
"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hope to see you at all our pubs in '94. Thanks for partying with us in '93. Hootney Doos!"

YVONNE HALLIDAY
Treasurer

"Happy Holidays. Given we are in a recession, I'd like to give a special holiday wish to all those not fortunate enough to have gifts under their tree this year. Please donate to your local charities."

ROY KIERS
Vice-President

"To all students and staff. Hope '93 was great for you, hope '94 will be better. Have a great holiday."



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